### FINAL REPORT

ON THE

### **SETTLEMENT**

OF THE

## SHAHJEHANPUR DISTRICT.

1890-1900.

By W. A. W. LAST, C.S., Settlement Officer,

सद्यम्ब जयत



ALLAHABAD:

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No.  $\frac{1795}{1-22A}$  of 1901.

FROM

THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH,

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Dated Naini Tal, the 25th June 1901.

SIR,

DEPARTMENT I.

Settlement of Land
Revenue.

Present:
The Hon'ble Mr. H. F.

EVANS, C.S.I.

I AM directed to submit, for the information and orders of Government, the final report on the recent re-settlement of the Sháhjahánpur\* district, together with the Commissioner of Rohilkhand's review of that report.

- 2. The district is one which from the beginning of British rule can scarcely be said to have ever been in a completely satisfactory condition as regards its land-revenue assessments. The earlier settlements appear from the report made by the Board of Commissioners in 1818 to have been severe, and Mr. J. W. Muir, who made the first long-term settlement in 1838-39, found the district "labouring under the pressure of a very heavy assessment." The sole object kept in view had been the enhancement of the demand, the great mass of the proprietors were in circumstances of extreme indigence, collections were made with great difficulty, and the wonder was that the State demand was realized at all.
- 3. The result of Mr. Muir's revision was to reduce the assessment from Rs. 10,22,324 to Rs. 9,75,273†. This settlement, in its turn, was not considered to be at all light, and in its earlier years worked by no means smoothly; but when the time came for its revision, though its incidence was considered to have been uneven, it was pronounced to have been a good settlement, and not only to have saved the district from impending ruin, but to have given a healthy impetus to industry and improvement.
- 4. Such at least was the verdict of Mr. Robert Currie to whom it fell to make the settlement of 1870 which has just expired. Mr. Currie had previously settled the Bulandshahr district, and, influenced not improbably by the adverse criticism which the lightness of the assessments in that district had evoked, as well as by the signs of increased prosperity which the new district exhibited, he came to the conclusion that a considerable enhancement of land revenue was called for. It must also be remembered, in this connection, that the position taken up by the Government at that time, and which found expression in the orders of 13th September 1873 and 5th June 1874, was that where a mahál had previously been highly assessed the assessment was not in ordinary cases to be lowered to half assets on purely arithmetical grounds, but that if the assessment had worked well it should not be lowered at all, while if it had worked ill the demand should be lowered, though not necessarily to the full extent of half assets.
- 5. The outcome, then, of Mr. Currie's revision was an enhancement of the demand to Rs. 11,84,425—a rise of 21.45 per cent. The settlement was reported by the Board in 1876 with a high culogium upon the manner in which the operations had been conducted. The Government Resolution of five years later (26th January 1881) considered that the rates selected were low, that the tendency to a rise then apparent would be increased by the improvements in the means of communication recently made, that the claims of landbolders and tenants had been treated with prudence, and that it was abundantly clear that a 30 years' settlement should be sanctioned.

<sup>\*</sup> This is the authorized spelling of the name of this district and not the variant adopted by Mr. Last throughout his report. Similarly Jellalabad should have been Jalalabad.

<sup>†</sup> These are the figures given by Mr. Last. In paragraph 54 of Mr. Currie's Settlement Report and in the Gazetteer slightly higher figures are given.

- 6. There had indeed been complaints of unduly heavy assessments before this, but they were considered to be without any real foundation. The Raja of Pawayan, for instance, is noted in the Government Resolution to which reference has just been made to have repeatedly complained that the Pawayan pargana had been overassessed, but after full enquiry his petition had been rejected in 1878. Remissions, too, had been found necessary every year since the introduction of the new demand; but they had not been sufficiently large to attract attention, except possibly in 1875-76 (when they amounted to not far short of quarter of a lakh), and though the balances had been considerable, they were fully accounted for by the famine of 1877-79, which in this district was of exceptional severity. Down to the time of the issue of the Resolution of 1881, therefore, there had been no special ground for anxiety. As late as 1882 Mr. H. P. Mulock, the Collector, recorded that though the district had suffered from flood, famine, fever and cattle disease, as well as drought, and there had in consequence been a fall in the cultivated area, yet the blame was in no wise to be laid at the door of the settlement; the fact was "it had never had fair play."
- 7. In the first five years of this decade (1880—1889), however, considerable reductions had to be sanctioned over and above the yearly tale of remissions. The assessments of the Khutar pargana appear to have been the first to attract attention, and reductions amounting to Rs. 5,675 were sanctioned in 1882. In the following year the Tilhar assessments were reduced by Rs. 2,184. The charge of the Pawayan estate having been assumed by the Court of Wards, as the result of five years' management it was incontestably shown that the estate had been over-assessed, and in 1886 reductions were made amounting to Rs. 6,580. Other estates were also reported to be over-assessed; transfers were common; and complaints of the severity of the demand continued to come in. Year by year much trouble was experienced in collecting it, and recourse to the severer processes became more common.\* This state of things continued down through the nineties, and in 1894-95 the abnormally high number of 21 properties were sold by anction for the recovery of arrears.
- 8. In 1895 when, in the usual course, a forecast of the probable results of a revision of the settlement was prepared, it was reported that the number of overassessed estates was undoubtedly considerable, and that though in the whole district an enhancement of from half a lakh to a lakh of rupees might be obtained, practically the only reason for recommending a revision was the necessity for rectifying the widespread inequalities of the existing demand. The Director estimated the then existing cultivated area at 739,793 acres, and, giving as the cultivated area of the previous settlement 732,522 acres, remarked that there had been virtually no extension of cultivation since then.† From the district returns it appears that the cultivated area was—

						Acres.
in 1889-90		***	***	***		728,737
in 1890-91	***	***	•••	***	***	730,966
in 1891-92		***	***	***	***	734,723
in 1892-93	***	***	***	***	***	742,742
in 1893-94		400	***	104	***	748,949
in 1894-95				•••	•••	710.831

For assessment purposes the returns of 1895-96 have been taken for the Sháhjabán-pur and Jalalabad tahsíls, and those of 1896-97 for the Tilhar and Pawayan tahsíls. The cultivated area so obtained is given in paragraph 26 of the report as 689,644 acres.‡ The exact cultivated area for either 1895-96 or 1896-97 cannot be

<sup>\*</sup> The statement of processes given in the report is wanting in succinctness. Several of the columns give particulars entirely irrelevant to the matter under consideration.

<sup>†</sup> The figures given for last settlement do not agree with those given in the settlement report (740,204 seres) or those given by Mr. Last (746,977 acres).

<sup>‡</sup> In Appendix I it is given as 684,699 acres. The difference is due to the exclusion in column 19 of Appendix I of 4,945 acres of cultivation in revenue-free properties. The area 730,288 acres in column 14 of Appendix III includes 51,482 acres of land stated to be uncultivated but included in tenants' holdings. The remainder, 678,746 acres, is the cultivated area by that statement. Appendix IV gives the cultivated area as 729,058—49,931 or 679,127 acres. In both these appendices the cultivated land in revenue-free maháls has been excluded. No explanation has been given by the Settlement Officer of these discrepancies. The area given in paragraph 26, however, agrees with the figures given by the crop returns, and is more likely to be correct than the others.

given, as the patwaris during this period in some part of the district or another were engaged on survey work. While therefore the cultivated area returned by the Settlement Officer does not represent the minimum cultivated area reached during the famine, the extent of the difference cannot be accurately known, though it may be put conjecturally at 20,000 acres, giving as the minimum cultivated area of the district 670,000 acres. The exact figures are not a matter of any great moment, as the year in question was entirely exceptional in character. Suffice it to say that between the date of the forecast and the date on which the new assessments were introduced, the district had to pass through a severe crisis. Never showing a clear balance sheet, or even a balance sheet which did not involve remissions, the district has required, in the very last years of the expiring settlement, larger remissions than ever, and even then showed large outstanding balances. To this it has now to be added that, as the result of the recent famine and the famine of 20 years previously, the population of the district is now 30,000 less than it was 30 years ago.

- 9. Such is the history of the last settlement, and such the state in which the district was found on the eve of the revision. Before considering how that revision has been carried out, it may be convenient to note that seeing that a re-distribution of the existing demand was mainly what was required, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture recommended a summary revision of the assessments based upon the village records. The Board, after having preliminary investigations made in two parganas, agreed to the proposal, and the revision of the assessments in this manner was sanctioned by Government, and Mr. W. A. W. Last was appointed Settlement Officer towards the end of 1896. The scheme of summary revision proposed was the natural outcome of the procedure successfully followed in some of the Oudh settlements, and would have dispensed entirely with a revision of the record of rights. In 1897 however, after the question had been considered in connection with the subject of the Meernt settlement, it was ordered that a complete attestation of the Sháhjahánpur records should be undertaken. The original scheme was therefore abandoned, and the whole machinery of a regular settlement brought into play. The starting of attestation work at this period was not without its difficulties; but it will be better to postpone any further notice of this portion of the work until after the assessment work has been considered and its results discussed.
- 10. How Mr. Last has carried out this task is to be judged only from a perusal of his detailed assessment statements and from a critical examination of the results which he has obtained. The assessments have been scrutinized by the Commissioner, by the Board, and by Government, and the Commissioner (Mr. Cruickshank) has exhibited in a tabular statement the various alterations which have been made in the Settlement Officer's proposals. It is highly to Mr. Last's credit that though his assessments were subjected to such minute and detailed examination, the superior revenue authorities should have found it necessary to make so inconsiderable a modification of his assessments. It remains to examine the statistics exhibited in his final report.
- 11. The area on which the assessment is based is composed of about four-fifths held by tenants at cash-rents and one-fifth assumption area. The several component portions of these areas and their valuation are shown in Appendix VII to the report. These figures do not always agree with those given elsewhere in the report, but the variations are not of any magnitude and do not call for detailed consideration. It should be remarked however that neither the total areas nor the total rents recorded in the village papers are in any one instance he areas or the rents which have been accepted by the Settlement Officer. The variations are not explained; but in the case of the areas (with one exception) it is inferred that Mr. Last has excluded lands of which the cultivation is of a precarious and uncertain character, while the variation in the rentals is to be ascribed, in the case of non-occupancy tenants, to the rejection of unduly inflated rent-rolls and, in the case of occupancy tenants, to the levelling up of rents by the application of standard rates.

The exceptional variation in areas is the variation in the grain-rented area. In maháls in which the returns of the famine year showed a great fall in the cultivated area, it was considered necessary to make an addition in order that the settlement might be made upon something more nearly approaching the normal than these figures gave. As no separate column is provided for such additions, it is understood that Mr. Last has shown them as grain-rented areas. But this is misleading. It will be seen from Appendices III and IV that the grain-reated area throughout the district is insignificant. The difference between the actual grain-rented area 5,788 acres and the area 41,220 in column 6 of Appendix VII or about 35,500 acres is the addition made to the cultivated area of the year of verification to make a normal cultivated area for the purposes of assessment. The statement of assets (like other statements in the report) professes to give rates and incidences in rupees, annas and pies, but the figures are only worked out as far down as annas. In the remarks which follow they are given in rupees and decimals of a rupee. In Appendix VII it is also to be noted that the second entry against each description of soil is not of rupees, as stated, The rental recorded as paid by tenants is only given in the total for the district and not by soils. The fact that rents are almost invariably lump rents renders it impossible to give details of actual rents for each class of soil.

- 12. The recorded rents of non-occupancy tenants amount to Rs. 10,71,008 for 314,749 acres, or Rs. 3·40 per acre: and those of occupancy tenants amount to Rs. 10,60,006 for 306,894 acres, or Rs. 3·45 per acre. The rental accepted by the Settlement Officer for the former is Rs. 9,73,334 for 306,253 acres, or Rs. 3·18 per acre, and for the latter Rs. 10,81,867 for 305,745 acres, or Rs. 3·54 per acre. As they stood recorded the rents in either case were much on a par, only differing by Re. ·05 per acre. As they stand after correction the non-occupancy rent is lowered by ·22 per acre and the occupancy (including ex-proprietary) rent is raised by ·09 per acre, so that the non-occupancy rate is Re. ·36 below the occupancy rate. The net result is that for the cash rental Rs. 20,55,201 is accepted in lien of Rs. 21,31,014—a reduction of about Rs. 75,000. The all-round tenant rental incidence given by the recorded figures is Rs. 3·43 per acre and by the corrected figures Rs. 3·36 per acre.
- 13. Mr. Last has not attempted any analysis of the jamabandis, or explained to what extent they had to be rejected on account of excessive or concealed rentals, or what the incidence was in each case. He has however given in Appendix II a statement of demand and collections from which it appears that the records show 86.53 per cent. as collected and 13.47 per cent. as uncollected. Taking it that the short collections are the balances of occupancy and non-occupancy holdings alike, the recorded rental of non-occupancy tenants on the recorded area would require a reduction of '46 per acre. The figures however may be erroneous, and in making an allowance of about half the above sum, after excluding the more precarious of the tenant areas, Mr. Last might well claim to have allowed a sufficiently liberal margin. Turning then to the occupancy rate. The non-occupancy rate being, so far as can be seen, fair, the occupancy valuation should also be fair, provided that the soil demarcation has been correctly done. It was remarked at last settlement that the occupancy tenants held the best land, and Mr. Last says that the same is the case now. As explained in paragraph 60, the correct relation between the rate of rent paid by occupancy and non-occupancy tenants for land of equal value is as 100 to 109. This explains why the occupancy rental is apparently higher than the non-occupancy rental; it is really about 8 per cent. lower. In this connection it is to be noted that, according to the analysis given by Mr. Last in the 55th paragraph of his report, the occupancy area took up 71 per cent. of the tenant area at last settlement. Before attestation (and Mr. Last's figures represent approximately the state of things before attestation) the percentage had shrunk

to 41. Thirty out of the 71 per cent. of the occupancy area of last settlement therefore had passed into the area treated by the Settlement Officer as the non-occupancy area (although a large portion of it was subsequently found at attestation to be held with a right of occupancy); and in the face of this it is somewhat surprising to find the occupancy rental after adjustment by the Settlement Officer so much ahead of the non-occupancy rental as Re. 36 per acre. It seems not at all improbable that the Settlement Officer's occupancy area, representing as it does all that survives of the occupancy area of last settlement, does contain the very best land in the district, and though the Settlement Officer's valuation gives the recorded occupancy rent without any allowance whatever for short collections with about Rs. 22,000 added thereto, there is no reason for inferring that it is unduly heavy. The rate is not in itself a high one, and with prices at their present level, or even appreciably below their present level, there should be no difficulty in enforcing its collection.

14. The assumption area (including the grain-rented area) is 124,516 acres. The component areas and the valuations taken are—

					Acres.	Rs.	Incidence.
Sír	***	•••	•••	***	69,840	2,35,359	3.37
Khudkásht	•••	***	•••	***	28,869	90,717	3.14
Grain-rented		***	•••	***	21,276	41,220	1.93
Rent-free	***	***	•••	***	4,531	14,855	3.28
						-	-
			Total	644	124,516	3,82,151	3.07
			4 175 20				

It is necessary again to mention that most of this so-called grain-rented area is really the area uncultivated at the time of the survey owing to the exceptional season of 1896-97, which the Settlement Officer has added to obtain a normal cultivated area and has therefore rightly assessed at a lenient rate.

- 15. To the assets thus obtained has been added a sum of Rs. 1,104 described as a "lump valuation added for sugarcane and opium," making the total rental assets Rs. 24,38,456 for 736,514 acres, equivalent to Rs. 3.31 per acre. Rs. 12,665 have also been added for sayar. The total assets are thus given as Rs. 24,51,121.
- 16. Improvements, the Settlement Officer says, he has seldom found it necessary to allow for: specially graduated assessments for 15 years have been allowed where there have been considerable reclamations of waste, but the deductions from assets on account of other improvements amount to Rs. 2,680 only.
- The deductions on proprietary cultivation are shown as Rs. 34,196 only on Rs. 3,26,076 out of a maximum possible deduction of Rs. 81,519. It was not to be expected in a district in which many reductions of revenue had to be made, and many other assessments maintained as they were, that the allowances under this head would be large, but the matter is worth considering in the light of the variations in rents due to caste. References to this question will be found in the pargana assessment reports of last settlement, but no attempt was made to work out the percentage of variation for the district. In the present report there is a statement (Appendix VIII) which is intended to give an analysis of caste rents. It does not agree exactly with any other statement in the report, but taken for what it is worth it shows an advantage in favour of high-caste occupancy tenants of 9 annas per acre, or 15.52 per cent., and in favour of high-caste non-occupancy tenants of 4 annas per acre, or 7.14 per cent. The total low-caste rate being Rs. 3.54 per acre and the total high-caste rate Rs. 3.13 per acre, the difference is Re. .41 per acre in favour of the high-caste tenant, equivalent to 11.58 per cent. The full lowcaste rate is exactly the rate which the Settlement Officer has adopted for the occupancy rate, and the same rate has been applied to the sir area and to the khudkusht area, allowing for the difference in soils. The sir and khudkasht valuations then being at full low-caste rates, 11.58, or say 111 per cent., might have been deducted on account of caste from the circle rate valuation at Rs. 3,48,615, or rather over Rs. 40,000

The full circle-rate valuations however have not been taken as assets, but a sum less than full circle rates by Rs. 22,539. Adding to this the sir deductions amounting to Rs. 34,196, the total deductions on account of the proprietary cultivation are given as Rs. 56,735, equivalent to full caste deductions plus about 4.80 per cent. further allowance. So far then as assumption areas have been handled there is no ground for complaint.

- 18. The assets finally arrived at by the Settlement Officer are Rs. 24,14,245, upon which the full assessment imposed is Rs. 11,73,884, including Rs. 4,624 on account of revenue-free estates. The assets of the revenue-free estates are not separately given, and it is not correct to calculate the percentage of the revenue to be paid, Rs. 11,69,260, upon the combined assets of maháls both revenue-paying and revenue-free. The revenue-free area however being small, the percentage of the total revenue to the total assets will give practically the same percentage as the revenue payable to the assets of the revenue-paying maháls. This is 48.62 per cent.
- 19. This demand (Rs. 11,69,260) is the demand which will be finally realized if the revenue of the alluvial muháls and of the maháls for which short-term settlements have been specially sanctioned is the same 15 years hence as it is now. Mr. Currie's jamas after all reductions subsequently made is given as Rs. 11,66,241. It appears however from the Board's administration report that the correct figures for the demand in the last year of the old settlement are Rs. 11,66,604. The gain to Government then after 15 years is shown as between two and three thousand rupees per annum.
- 20. The immediate effect of the settlement is to reduce the demand to Rs. 11,51,984, or nearly Rs. 15,000 per annum, after five years the figures will be Rs. 11,65,283, a loss of about Rs. 1,500 per annum, and after 10 years Rs. 11,68,390, a gain of about Rs. 2,000 per annum.
- 21. The final jama falls (taking the gross revenue and the total cultivation) at Re. 1.70 per cultivated acre, and (taking the realizable revenue and the cultivated area of the revenue-paying maháls) at Re. 1.71 per cultivated acre. The total area on which the assessments are framed is 736,514 acres, giving an incidence per assessed acre of Re. 1.59. The all-round recorded tenant rate being Rs. 3.43 per acre, the revenue rate gives a percentage of 46.34 on that rate.
- 22. The Settlement Officer now gives the present cultivated area as 724,767 acres, showing that a considerable recovery has already been made since the disastrous year 1896-97. This being so, the new settlement starts with an incidence per cultivated acre of Re. 1·62, with a fair prospect of its falling somewhat lower.
- 23. So far then as can be judged from a mathematical examination of the reported results of the re-settlement, there is nothing indicating severity in the assessments, and at the same time there is no ground for supposing that any undue liberality has been shown by the Settlement Officer. The figures point to a sensible and workable settlement, provided that (1) the soil classification has been made with substantial correctness, that (2) the additions made to the assets as representing the difference between famine figures and normal figures have been equitably apportioned, and that (3) the revenue has been properly distributed. This last point is of particular importance in a district in which single zamindári estates constitute only 22 per cent. of the whole, and in which the percentage of pattidári estates is as high as 44. At the opening of his report (under the heading description of the district) the Settlement Officer has recorded that the whole of the distribution work has been done by him personally. There have been only 16 appeals from Mr. Last's orders in distribution cases, and there has been nothing so far to indicate that his distributions have not given satisfaction.
- 24. The enhancement to be finally obtained will be drawn from all tabells except Pawayan, in which the reductions, amounting to Rs. 38,093, have to be set off against the Rs. 41,112 of enhancements in the other tabells. In 1,476

out of the 3,558 revenue-paying mahals in the district the jama has had to be reduced, in 1,634 it has been enhanced, and in 448 the old jama has been maintained. Considering that this settlement was undertaken for the express purpose of re-adjusting the existing demand rather than of obtaining any enhancement, it would have been more satisfactory if the Settlement Officer had given some indication of the extent to which the expiring assessments were enhanced or reduced. As they stand the figures give no reliable data for an estimate of the extent to which the expiring assessments had become unfair. When alterations are being made right and left a Settlement Officer may make petty reductions. proposals for which would otherwise never have been entertained, or again may make petty additions in order to bring jamas up to even multiples of ten or a hundred. The point upon which information was desired is the extent to which any considerable changes had to be made-changes amounting to 25 per cent., to 50 per cent., and so on. As it is, there is merely a bare statement showing that in 12:59 per cent. only of his assessments did the Settlement Officer leave the old revenue undisturbed, while the demand was raised in 45.93 per cent. and reduced in 41.48 per cent.

- 25. Upon the subject of the revision of records the Settlement Officer's remarks are brief; and to the subject of the survey of the district there is only a passing reference in the second paragraph of his report. From a memorandum which Mr. G. B. Scott, Superintendent of Provincial Surveys, has been good enough to supply. it appears that the survey, both traverse and cadastral, began in Ostober 1895. The traverse survey was finished in October 1897, and the cadastral survey in October 1898, and the maps and records for attestation purposes were made over to the Settlement Officer by the end of that year. Almost the whole of the work was done by patwaris after they had been trained for the purpose. Some difficult work had to be carried out in connection with the Gogra and Ramganga alluvial villages, and this was done under the Superintendent's personal supervision. The total area surveyed was 1,738 square miles,\* covering 2,365 villages with 1,332,727 field plots. The cost of the traverse survey was Rs. 51,601, or Rs. 29.63 per square mile, including the plotting of maps. The cadastral survey cost Rs. 98,935, or Rs. 56 92 per square mile, including the preparation of maps and records, but excluding the headquarter charges, which may be put at Rs. 16,511, or Rs. 9.50 per square mile. The total cost of the survey therefore was Rs. 1,67,047.
- 26. The survey having been decided upon before any conclusion had been arrived at respecting the re-settlement of the district, a revision of the records was more or less forced upon it. As the Settlement Officer has remarked, the attestation work was 15 months behind the assessment work. It gave no assistance therefore in the actual work of assessment. It was still further behind the survey work. The consequence was that by attestation-time the records prepared by the Survey Department were out of date, and all the preliminary work had to be done over again. The attestation work has now been completed, but at the time of writing the fairing of records is still proceeding, and is not likely to be finished for some months to come. The advantages claimed for the [revision were the correction of the khewats and the bringing of the sir and occupancy entries up to date. The 15,000 cases of proprietary right instituted would indicate that the records had not been kept up to date, and that advantage was taken of the opportunity to have the mutations recorded for nothing for which otherwise the applicants would have had to have paid. With regard to the sir entries, as the figures before and after attestation are not given, it is impossible to say to what extent they have been affected. So far as the figures in the appendices go, they show that there has been a steady decline of the sir area from 106,727 acres at last settlement to 72,873 acres at the present time; but this is only partially true, as at last settlement all proprietary

<sup>\*</sup>This is 17 square miles more than the area as given by the Settlement Officer. About half of this difference is due to areas subsequently decided to be portions of adjoining districts. The remainder ( per cent.) is due to petty variations.

cultivation practically was entered as sir; and the sir and khudkásht areas now are together only 420 acres less than the sir area of last settlement (Appendix III), or 901 acres according to Appendix IV.

27. In respect of the occupancy area, the Settlement Officer has in paragraph 55 of his report given statistics indicating that it has fallen from 71 per cent. at last settlement to 69 per cent. now, and that the revision has resulted in an addition to the recorded occupancy area of 28 per cent.\* of the tenant area. The comparative areas are not given, but it has been ascertained that the occupancy and total tenant areas were—

		ני	enant area.	Occupancy area.	Percentage.
At last settlement		***	649,095	458,489	70.63
Before verification	•••	***	622,011	255,290	41.04
After verification		107	618,253	425,078	68.75

The present percentage of the tenant area, as it represents a percentage taken at a time of stress when inferior holdings were readily relinquished or abandoned, in other words, when there had been a shrinkage in non-occupancy holdings, is naturally an abnormal percentage. As it is, though the difference is shown as only 2 per cent, on the tenant area, the fall has between the two settlement periods been 33,500 acres—a drop on the old settlement area of 7.29 per cent. As an instance of how misleading percentages may be when unaccompanied by the figures upon which they are calculated, the case of Pawayan tahsil may be cited. The percentages indicate a growth of occupancy rights by 5 per cent. As a matter of fact the occupancy area has dropped 29,000 acres, and the increase in the percentage is due solely to the holdings area having decreased by 60,000 acres. In the Tilhar tahsil, where the increase in the holdings area is most marked (17,500 acres), the occupancy area has fallen 3,000 acres. There has been a similar fall in the Shahjahanpur tahsil, where the holdings area has advanced 5,000 acres. On the other hand in Jalalabad, where the holdings area has advanced 7,000 acres. the occupancy area has increased by 1,500 acres—the only instance of an actual increase in the whole district, though the percentage to the tenant area shows a fall of 3 per cent. It may be added that nearly 17,000 cases relating to tenant right were before the courts in the course of the settlement.

28. The only other figures in connection with the revision of the record of rights that call for notice are those relating to the enhancement of rent. Notwithstanding the enhancement of occupancy rents which has been adverted to above, there were only 2,439 applications for enhancement. Whether this is owing to the fact that landholders were discouraged by about three-fifths of their cases being dismissed, or to rents being enhanced by private agreement, or to the season being considered inopportune for attempting enhancements, does not appear, but the figures are unusual.

29. The total cost of the settlement has been-

					Rs.
For the survey	***		***	***	1,67,047
For the record of rights	***	***	***	***	1,21,425
For assessment	***		***	***	97,612
			Total	•••	3,86,084

To this must be added Rs. 50,000, the cost likely to be incurred in completing the records. This brings the total up to Rs. 4,36,084, or, taking 1,721 square miles as the area of the district, Rs. 253:33 per square mile.

30. Mr. Last's work would have been more likely to inspire confidence had he been a little more explicit in his account of his methods and a little more attentive-

<sup>\*</sup> In paragraph 55, 41 per cent, is given as the percentage before attestation. From Appendix VII it would appear to have been 49:34 per cent., from Appendix VIII 48:67 per cent., and from Appendix IV (which alone gives the ex-proprietary area separately) 46:57 per cent.

to the irksome but necessary details of a settlement report. Explanations should have been given of the apparent discrepancies between the statistics in different appendices and parts of the report. Such discrepancies give rise to doubts of the accuracy of those statistics which are probably undeserved. At the same time the Board have pleasure in recognising, with the Commissioner, the keen interest which Mr. Last has taken in the task entrusted to him, and in recording their opinion that his account of his work has been faulty rather than the work itself. His assessments of the individual mahals which have all passed under the scrutiny of higher authorities indicated scrupulous attention to details and the varying characteristics of the villages he was assessing. Based upon figures which represent the district at no great remove from its worst, and introduced (as there is good ground for believing that it has been introduced) upon a rising wave of agricultural recuperation, the settlement will, there is every reason to hope, not merely be able to stand the strain of exceptionally bad seasons, but will conduce in no small measure to the material prosperity of the district. The assessments came into force on the 1st July 1900, and in the limited time within which it has been possible to observe their working have been found to work in every way satisfactorily : the collections in fact have been considerably ahead of the estimates. The Board recommend that all the assessments be sanctioned for 30 years, with the exception of those of the alluvial maháls and of the maháls for which short-term settlements have been specially sanctioned.

I have the honour to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient servant,

H. F. HOUSE,

Secretary.

FROM

### A. W. CRUICKSHANK, Esq., C.S.I., C.S.,

COMMISSIONER, ROHILKHAND DIVISION.

To

#### THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH.

Dated the 27th May 1901.

SIR.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Final Report of the settlement of the Shahjahanpur district which is dated 25th April 1901, but of which a copy did not reach me till 20th May 1901.

2. Paragraphs 3—33—" Description of the District" are prefaced by two paragraphs relating to the progress of the survey and explanatory of the delay in preparation and attestation of the records-of-rights.

For the latter the Settlement Officer does not seem to have been responsible. These paragraphs might, however, perhaps more fitly have been placed in a later chapter.

3. The rough sketch map following paragraph 3 suffices to give the general lie of the boundaries of the district, tabsils and parganas, and also of the two railways and one tramway that pass through the district and of the main metalled roads and the rivers—the Ganges, the Ramganga and its affluents, the Bahgul, the Garra and the Gomte.

The fluvial tracts on the margin of the Ganges and Ramganga and to a less extent on the Garra are liable to alluvion and diluvion and 221 mahals have been quinquennially settled.

The soil and their location are briefly described in paragraph 4 of the report, and as they have been noticed in detail in former reports need not be here discussed. The northern part of the district is liable to suffer much from any scantiness of rainfall being chiefly sandy bhúr. The clay stretches between the Rámganga and Ganges and elsowhere are still more liable to damage if the rainfall fails. The climate is rather more moist than that of the ordinary Doáb district and the rain, fall is ordinarily full. The average rain for 9 years—1891-92 to 1899-1900 (including the year of scanty rainfall 1895-96 which caused the distress in 1896-97)—was \$3.93.

The north-east of the district has bad drinking water and malaria is there prevalent. There is no irrigation in the district from the snow fed rivers Ganges, Rámganga or Sarda. Irrigation from wells is extensively practised as the water is no where far below the surface. The dammed streams and water courses available as a supply for local lift irrigation in years of average rainfail, fail in very dry years.

4. Paragraphs 10 and 11 of Mr. Last's report deal with the communications and notices the fact that with the exception of the grand trunk road all the other improvements in communication, viz., the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, the Lucknow-Bareilly Railway and the Mailani-Sháhjahánpur Tramway date from since the last settlement as do the metalled roads.

5. The figures of population given in the Gazetteer show:--

1847	000	***	***	414	750,501
1853	***	•••	***		908,064
1865	***	***	444	***	933,979
1872	***	***	4**	940	951,006
1888	***	***	920	***	856,946
1891	***	***	***	***	918,551
1901	***	111	***		921.624 or 920.302

as per figures supplied on 24th May 1901.

The decrease in 1881 was, as pointed out in the report, chiefly due to the famine of 1877 and the epidemic fever which followed it. The scarcity in 1896-97 resulted in a large decrease in the population of Powayan tahsíl who, enfeebled by scanty food, could not withstand the malarious climate.

The other tahsils show an increase since 1891:-

				Tahsíl.					
				Jalalabad.	Sháhjahánpur.	Tilhar.	Pawayan.		
1872	***	***	***	165,763	279,191	244,558	261,494		
1881	***	***	***	168,813	252,028	173,590	245,454		
1891	•••	***	001	205,398	273,146	190,785	249,222		
1901	***	***	***	175,617	264,470	256,994	223,231		

The population of the two municipalities according to the Gazetteer is: -

			700	1872.	1881.	1891.	1901.
Sháhjahánpur	***	444	***	72,140	77,936	78,522	72,756
Tilhar	***	***	884	18,900	15,559*	17,265	19,146

 Boundaries of the municipality were contracted.

Besides the Municipalities of Sháhjahánpur and Tilhar (on the flourishing state of which it is unnecessary to here descant, as the Local Government receive Annual Administration Reports) there are the following towns administered under Act XX of 1856:—

			500			Popu	lation in—
	Tahsíl.		Town.	1009	1881.	1891.	1901.
Jalalabad		goñ	Jalalabad	•••	8,085	6,729	Figures are not M present
Pawayan	***	•••	Pawayan	401	5,478	5,548	available.
Tilhar		ς	Khudaganj	***	6,925	6,161	
Tither	***	{	Miranpur Katra	•••	5,949	6,230	
			Total	***	26,377	24,668	

6. The grain trade is, of course, the main trade of the district and the constant drain of exports to the south and elsewhere since 1896-97 has been highly profitable to dealers and producers. The following figures for the Sháhjahánpur Municipality may be quoted here. Extract from last Municipal Report, Sháhjahánpur:—

Food-grains.	Imports.	Exports.
2 2000 8.000000	Mds. s.	Mds. s,
First class, i.e., gram, mung, moth, urd, rice, wheat	5,90,726 28	<b>2,97,860</b> 7
Second class, i.e., bijhra, bajra, barley, gujai, juar, lobia, masur, paddy seed, arhar	2,54,006 35	1,06,386 2

In mentioning the manufacture of refined sugar "kand" as practised more extensively than any other trade by the natives of the district on the indigenous system (as described in the Gazetteer) and as occupying the Managers of the Rosa

Factory on the European method, Mr. Last has not noted that this latter manufactory is combined with a distillery of spirits, Rosa rum chiefly, and that without the refinery the distillery could hardly be run as a paying concern and vice versa.

Cotton is grown over a considerable area but there are no mills in the district and the cotton is not sufficient for all the local consumption.

Indigo is on the downward grade.

Amongst smaller manufactures the "baib matting" of Shahjahanpur is well known, but its total outturn is not large.

- 7. The non-agricultural populations have a larger proportion of Musalmáns in the Towns than in the villages where servile classes of Hindus are more common. The local distribution of the main castes of cultivating classes does not probably differ much from the detail given on pages xxii—xxv of Mr. Currie's last Settlement Report. The present numbers are not yet available, as the figures of the census of 1901 are not yet printed.
- 8. The information about the prevailing class of proprietors is somewhat sparse (see paragraph 24). The large proportion of area, 44 per cent., held in pattidari tenure is remarkable and possibly this may, to some extent, have operated to retard a rise in rents. The area held by single zamíndárs, 22 per cent., is less than the balance which is held by joint zamíndárs. It would have been interesting to have known the proportions of Musalmáns and Hindus under some of these heads.

At the last settlement the proportion of separate maháls held by the higher castes of Hindus and by Patháns was:—

Caste.		Sháhjah <b>á</b> npur.	Jalalabad.	Tilbar.	Pawayan.	District percentage.
Rájputs	***	23	44	44	42	38
Patháns	***	32	13	20	9₫	18
Brahmans	***	9	3	94	10	81
Kayasthas	***	5	3	94	44	54
Banias, Mahájan	8	5	1	3	57	4
Kurmis		å.	660	31	6	3
		10'31'8V	15/6	Total	***	772

Mr. Currie adds, this accounts for  $77\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the maháls in the district and most of the remainder belong to these same castes and are owned by them in various proportions. Some simple comparison of the existing distribution of proprietary right would have been interesting as showing how the various classes had stood the ups and downs of the last period of settlement, including the famine of 1876-77 and the scarcity of 1895-96-97.

When Mr. Currie wrote—600 maháls or rather less than 20 per cent. of the whole district was owned by residents of the city of Sháhjahánpur—who also owned shares in different villages—so that nearly one-fourth of the entire area of the district was owned by residents of Sháhjahánpur. This fact that non-resident owners prevailed to so large an extent might have been considered in the light of recent figures illustrating the present position in that respect, but this is not perhaps strictly required.

9. Paragraph 25 certainly shows that land owners of great substance are not common in Sháhjahánpur. A detail of the locality and caste of some of the classes of Hindu zamíndárs will be found in paragraph 23 as well as the distribution of the principal Musalmán proprietors.

The prevailing castes of cultivators are grouped in three arbitrary divisions-

- A. High caste (apparently).
- B. Skilled cultivators.
- C. Others including Musalmáns,

It does not convey much information to read that "other cases are found in about the usual proportion all over the country." Apparently this refers to the village servants. e. g., Nai, Barhai, Dhobis.

10. There is no information on the cultivation of "sir" or "khudkasht" by the different castos.

The area table and verified rent-roll has the following figures of tenant holdings:--

		Ex-proprietary tenants as such.	Occupancy tenants as such.	Tenant-at-will at full rates.	Total,
No. of khatas	***	2,610	132,511	203,152	338,273
Cash-paying	***	12,327	289,684	315 460	617,471
Grain rented	***	***	736	4,830	5,566
			7- A	-	
Total	244	12,327	290,420	820,290	623,037
			************	-	

The total 623,037 includes apparently 49,931 rented uncultivated area. This gives the average area per khata of 1.8. The Settlement Officer has explained that the area of the verified rent-roll is less than the average area, but that is not sufficient to account for difference between 1.8 acres and 5 acres given as the average tenants' holding in paragraph 26 of the Final Report. The Settlement Officer has used holding to mean the average aggregate area held by a tenant. There are 124,294 tenants.

11. Section 27.—High caste cultivators are by nature less industrious than lower castes and have to get some of the details of cultivation done by hired labour. They are also able to oppose a more combined opposition to enhancement by the zamindár.

The figures in the statement in paragraph 33 would be more convincing if it were known that the soil and crops grown in the holdings of A, B, C were exactly similar. The method of cultivation has not practically changed since last settlement. It is noticeable in statement VI that the "dofasli" area has increased from 10,932 in 1870 to 54,072 in the year of verification, and to 148,269 if the average of five normal years 1298-1332 fasli be taken. The increase is chiefly in gram, peas and masur and garden crop including poppy in rabi and in rice, urd, kodon and cane in the kharif. The increase in cane area is explained in paragraph 14 of Mr. Last's report.

The now common use of the Mylnc-Behea cane crushing mill enables a larger quantity of juice to be expressed than was possible 30 years ago.

12. Chapter II.—The results of the assessment imposed by Mr. Currie on the basis afforded by a too hopeful estimate of future assets have been repeatedly discussed during the term of settlement now ended.

Obviously a demand that fell at 55 per cent. on actual assets could not stand the test of a period in which the famine of 1877 and the scarcity of 1896-97 were not the only disastrous evils. The enfeeblement of the people through want in 1896-97 rendered them a more easy prey to malaria and other diseases and diminished the supply of cultivators.

The ultimate result was that in many villages the revenue demand bore a far heavier proportion to the diminished assets than even at settlement and the already heavy demand became accentuated by the disasters which aided in many cases the evil of a disproportionate distribution of the original burden over deteriorated villages with insufficient population.

13. In paragraph 99 of his Final Report on last settlement Mr. Currie gives for each tabsil the result of his revision showing the following statistics for the district:—

Number of mauzas in which the jama has-

(a) remained (b) decreased		***	***	674 695	***	238 363 1,755
(c) increased	***	***	944	***	Total	2,356

Percentage of decrease in (b) = 11.1Ditto of increase in (c) = 37.7

The net percentage of increase of the new demand at last settlement on the preceding revenue equals 21.4 per cent.

In pargana Khutar and tahsil Pawayan (though this was the least favoured tract in the most inferior tahsili) the percentage of increase was 78.1.

A similar statement showing how the villages in classes (a), (b), (c) had been treated in the present settlement would have been more illustrative of the necessity for, and the leniency of, the present revision of settlement than many pages of writing but the labour of preparing it would have been great.

Doubtless, during the last period of settlement attempts to deal piecemeal with the severity of the assessment and to remit arrears impossible of payment were made.

The scale of the remissions in the years subsequent to 1876-77 necessitated by the famine in that year which pressed with particular harshness on Shahjahanpur district contrasts strangely with the large handed treatment of this district in respect of revenue collections since the scarcity of 1896-97. It is true, however, that the latter disasters came at the end of a period of exhaustion and overassessment, while in 1876-77 it had not been fully realized that Mr. Currie's estimated assets were as a rule too sanguine: but there is no question that in other times there were other manners of dealing with revenue arrears and manners not so sympathetic as those of a later day.

I am writing of the revenue policy as a whole—I do not attach much importance to the decrease in number of writs of demand, for the use of this form of process depends much on the individuality of the Collector and Tahsildar for the time being. The liberality of the suspensions and remissions subsequent to 1896 was misunderstood by many grasping zamindars. In the end it was necessary to compel the payment of arrears in case of substantial defaulters by the sterner means of arrest, distraint and attachment. This severity was unavoidable in the case of those who could pay but would not pay till compelled to do so. They were impelled to resist payment in the belief that if they only held out long enough they would force the hand of Government. The difficulty of realization had been much increased by the fact that a long line of Collectors had allowed the privilege of paying in revenue direct to Government without the intervention of the lambardar to degenerate into a practical disinclination to enforce joint responsibility in the case of such privileged proprietors when they defaulted. This has been dealt with by re-arranging the lambardari system.

14. I note from the Gazetteer, page 117, the aggregate number of private sales of property in Shahjahanpur was as follows:—

			1873-74.	1880-81.	Average per yoar.
A.	In revenue-paying land	***	2,688	8	394
B.	In revenue-free land	***	339	•	50

Mr. Last gives a table for the period 1879-1880 to 1899-1900 which shows the following result:—

Transfers.

		2.14111	ACID.	
			<u> </u>	
	By order	of court.	B <b>y</b> priv	ate sale.
	A.	В.	A.	В.
***	3,278	149	7,612	972
***	156	7	362	46
•••	8,013	21	16,324	189
	400	A. 3,278 156	By order of court.  A. B.  3,278 149  156 7	A. B. A 3,278 149 7,612 156 7 362

It seems to me unfruitful to speculate on the relative value of revenue paying and revenue free estates. The root difficulty attending such comparisons is that the amount for which each of the estates in the table was hypothecated at the time of sale is an unknown quantity and without this information the knowledge

that the tabled value of such and such an estate was so many times multiple of the revenue is of imperfect use.

- 15. With reference to paragraph 47 in Mr. Last's report, the figure of 19 per cent. as indicative of the proportion of area held by the non-agricultural classes is partly based on guess work. Whether such area has really increased from 6 per cent. in 1840 to 19 per cent. in 1900 depends very much on the classification of such non-agriculturists, and the accuracy of the figures in each year.
- 16. It is resultless to compare the areas actually irrigated in the year of verification with the area shown as irrigated at last settlement, for the latter was the irrigation measured in a good year and the former is the record of years of varying inferiority.

The effects of the famine in 1876 and the scarcity in 1896-97 is clearly illustrated as regards tahsil Pawayan by the shrinkage of cultivation shown in paragraph 50, from 65 per cent. of total area in 1870 to 58:91 per cent. Average of 1891-1895, and to 48:63 in the year of survey 1897. By 1899 it had commenced to rehabilitate itself, the percentage of cultivation to total area being 52:52. I may here remark that the area of 1,721 square miles given in Chapter I is 12 square miles less than the total area at last settlement. Difference in modes of survey would account for this, and also some small discrepancy may be due to slight changes in the Ganges deep stream.

The cultivating class in Sháhjahánpur do not want any canal irrigation in Sháhjahánpur, and would deprecate its introduction on the score of the unhealthiness likely to be induced, and the destruction sure to result in the matter of kacha wells becoming to a large extent impracticable.

The portions of the district indicated by Mr. Last as having a margin for extension of cultivation are precisely those where canals would accentuate the natural unhealthiness of the locality. Good drainage might mitigate this but would not entirely obviate it. I believe, however, it has been proved to demonstration that as far as Shahjaharpur is concerned a canal is not required, and would prove to be a source of financial loss in every way.

17. Section 54 would be more clearly expressed if for "extent" we read "proportion" and for "cultivation" substitute "holdings."

All the percentage in this statement appeared to have been based on the areas of 1870-1900 given in statement IV and in these areas rented uncultivated land is included.

The remarks on paragraphs 55 and 56 on the loss, survival growth of occupancy rights are interesting, and seem to show that loss of right of occupancy has been nearly counterbalanced by growth of new right of occupancy or recognition of existing but formerly unregisted all right of occupancy.

18. Mr. Last's figures in paragraph 59 show a rise in the rental incidence of 10 annas per acre, i.e., from Rs. 2-12-0 to Rs. 3-6-0 per acre. This is approximately equivalent to 23 per cent. I do not find any indication that the Settlement Officer has considered how far his rise of 10-16 a rupee per acre in the rent rate is or is not an increased burden on the tenant. Let us examine the price list of past and present years—

				18	71.	1881	- 190	1.
				8.	ch.	S. ch	. 8.	ch.
Wheat	***	***	***	28	2	21	l 14	4
Barley	***	***		35		27 10	21	8
Rice (best sort)	***	946	***	6	14	7 1	0 8	0
" (common)	***	***	***	19	0	15 1	1 11	4
Juár	•••	***	***	28	4	26	24	0

There is no doubt that most of the prices of staple grains expressed in rupees have been rising.

In wheat the price has since 1871 risen approximately 100 per cent, in rupees: expressed in terms of gold the rupee (1s. 4d.) is only five-eighths of its value in 1871.

Speaking generally then as far as pertain to the cultivator procuring rupces for his rent, half an acre will now provide in wheat the price that 30 years ago he got for the product of a whole acre, and he is, as far as his rent is concerned, a gainer by the rise in the price of wheat to an extent far more than 23 per cent. The case is similar with most staples of Sháhjahánpur agriculture, and I have taken the prices from the Gazette of May 18th, 1901, which are prices of a favourable year, the *kharíf* having been unusually good and the *rabi* also good.

With a population showing no increase it is not likely that the rents would really rise in value much.

19. No doubt external matters such as bad famines in Bombay and in Bundel-khand have, by drawing off the surplus food supply, accentuated the local rise in price, but the rise could not have been so continuous had not the improvement of communication by rail and road facilitated the accumulation of grain at places whence it could be exported with ease to any mart where a demand existed.

The not assets now Rs. 24,14,245 are in rupees worth 1s. 4d. each and as compared with assets of last settlement are worth Rs. 15,08,903 of the 2 shilling rupee of 1871.

20. Chapter IV.—It is not necessary for me to detain this report by a lengthy reiteration of the definite rules in Board's Circular No. 15-I. Mr. Last is technically incorrect in stating that the extent to which the power of raising occupancy rents in the valuation of villages was exercised in cases where rents were very low is apparent from Appendix VII. It might easily have been made to show this, but in fact it only shows the net result of substitution of raised rents where right-of-occupancy rents were too low: and of substitution of fair rents where the right-of-occupancy rents were obviously too high.

It is true that this latter process was very sparingly used. As a rule this power was exercised in a judicious manner. Some cases, especially in the tahsfls first assessed, appeared to me to show unnecessary minuteness in rejecting rents as too high or too low for the same practical result might have been obtained by accepting the rents and taking a lower or higher percentage respectively of the assets accepted, or by amending the assets and taking the percentage chosen as the fair demand.

As, however, each mahál's assessment statement as well as the assessment register was examined by me before submission to the Board and Government, it is not necessary for me to add any generalizations. The annexed statement shows the relatively small extent to which the Settlement Officer's assessments were amended in the course of the triple examination. The amendments on regular appeal up to date have been very minute.

	Z	Number of Mahál.	fabál,	Total Se	Total jama proposed by the Settlement Officer.	d by the cer.	Total jar	Total jama recommended by the Commissioner.	ded by the	Total j	Total jama recommended by the Board.	ended by	Total j	Total jama sanctioned by Government.	ned by	ions oi
Tahsily	∫ கர் எ எ சு முவர்மஇ தில்ரிகள் இடில்ரிகள்	Ordinary mandis.	Total.	For quinquen- nial madáls.	varibro ro'i alednm	лвэоТ	•norpainp 10'H slâdsm lain	For ordinary	·IstoT'	fairnaganing roll selèdem	Vor ordinary multilas.	.f.gio.T'	For quinquen.	For ordinary maháls.	,[e3o'l'	Subsequent afters about a to da
1		ස	4	10	9	4	90	6	10	11	12	13	14	io.	16	71
				Rs.	Rã.	Rg.	Rs.	Bg.	B	R8.	s H	Rs.	B.S.	Rs	E E	
Revenue paying		55 803	858	8,864	2,99,257	3,08,121	11,772	2,95,548	3,07,320	11,772	2,90,239	3,02,011	11,747	2,89,495	3,01,242	81
S Januarpur \ Bevenue-free	:	ŧ	:	:	2	:		i		:	:	:	:	:	i	:
Total	10	55 803	858	8,864	2,99,257	3,08.121	11,772	2,95,548	8,07,320	11,772	2,90,239	3,02,011	11,747	2,89,495	3,01,242	20
( Revenue paying	104	4 550	099	4,142	2,22,306	2,26,448	16,630	2,08,086	2,24,716	16,630	2,05,966	2,22,596	16,510	2,05,833	2,22,343	115
setalabad Revenue-froe	:	-	-	•	1,500	1,500	:	1,500	1,500	i	1,500	1,500	į	1,500	1,500	:
Total	104	557	199	4,142	2,23,806	2,27,948	16,630	2,09,586	2,26,216	16,630	2,07,466	2,24,096	16,510	2,07,333	2,23,843	115
( Revenue-paying	•	62 895	126	14,412	3,41,008	3,55,420	14,922	3,38,876	3,53,798	14,982	3,47,981	. 3,52,903	15,647	8,35,508	3,51,155	<b>9</b>
Revenue-free	:	9	9	:	2,239	2,239	:	2,259	2,259		2,259	2,259	*	2,259	2,259	:
Total	62	106 2	963	14,412	3,43,247	3,57,659	14,922	3,41,135	356,057	14,922	3,40,240	3,55,162	15,647	3,37,767	8,53,414	50
( Revenue paying	:	1,083	1,083	:	3,01,215	3,01,215	*	2,96,668	2,96,668	:	2,96,626	2,96,626	:	2,94,705	2,94,705	:
Kevenue-free	:	ia	ಚಾ	:	865	865	:	865	865	i	865	865	:	865	865	:
Total	:	1,088	1,088	ř	3,02,080	3,02,080	*	2,97,533	2,97,533	:	2,97,491	2,97,491	:	2,95,570	2,95,570	:
District ( Revenue-puying .	221	1 8,337	8,558	27,418	11,63,786	11,91,204	43,324	11,39,178	11,82,502	43,324	11,30,812	11,74,136	43,904	11,25,541	11,69,445	185
Kevenue-free	:	12	12	:	4,604	4,664	:	4,624	4,624	:	4,624	4,624	;	4,624	4,624	•
Total .	221	1 3,349	3,570	27,:18	11,68,390	11,95,808	43,324	11,43,802	11,87,126	43,324	11,35,436	11,78,750	43,904	11,30,165	11,74,069	185

The only alteration in revenue-free maháls is an increase of Rs. 20, proposed by Commissioner. In the case of the revenue-paying maháls the large increase in the quinquennial maháls demand is mainly due to the number of such maháls having been increased on Commissioner's recommendation from 151 to 221 and their boundaries altered. Similarly a large part of the decrease in the demand on permanent maháls is due to the same cause. The rest is due to comparative leniency of treatment.

					Jama proposed in	-
				Quinquennial maháls.	Ordinary or (permanent) maháls.	Revenue-paying.
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
By Settlement Officer By Commissioner	***	***	***	27.418 43,324	11,63,786 11,39,178	11,91,204 11,82,502
			j	+15,906	-24,608	-8,702
By Board of Revenue	100	4 = 0	***	48,394	11,30,812	11,74,136
Compared with Settler		***	941	+15,906	-32,974	-17,068
Compared with Commi	ssioner	***	710	+0	-8,366	-8,366
By Government	100.00	***	***	43,904	11,25,541	11,69,445
Compared with Settlen	nent Officer	***	***	+16,486	-38,245	-21,759
Compared with Commi	ssioner	8 * 0	***	+580	-13,637	-13,057
Compared with Board	***	***	***	+ 580	-5,271	-4,691

21. It is always natural for a Settlement Officer who is younger than the criticising officers to take a more hopeful view of the capacity of any given village, but as a rule Mr. Last showed creditable moderation and appears to have been guided by that sound rule in the old directions for Settlement Officers. "If he is in doubt" "which of two jamas to fix—a high one or a low one—he should always incline to" the latter." From these figures—

	Numb	er of maháls in which jame has been	Number of Mr. Currie's mauza in which jama was
Enhanced	840	1,634	1,755
Reduced	***	1,476	363
Left unaltered		445	238
To	tal	3,558	2,356

It would appear that the present number of mahals is approximately 50 per cent. more than the number of mauzas in 1871. The above statement emphasises the moderation of the settlement of Mr. Last in which the numbers of cases of reduction of demand and of demand left unaltered are comparatively much larger than in Mr. Currie's settlement and the number of demands enhanced relatively fewer.

It would have been interesting to know in how many cases of enhanced demand at last settlement Mr. Last found it necessary to reduce the figure of demand and in how many cases of reduction at Mr. Currie's settlement enhancement was found justifiable. Some such data would have illustrated the inequality of incidence of the revenue after the period of last settlement, but would have taken more time and labour than would have been justified. It is, however, clear that the reductions by Mr. Last are infinitely more numerous in tahsil Pawayan where enhancements reached so high a number in Mr. Currie's settlement, and enhancements relatively more numerous in the remaining three tahsils.

22. The reasons for preferring the spreading out of the improvements' allowance over 15 years at a higher rate than that proposed for 30 years will be found on pages 2 and 3, paragraph 9 of my No. 5644, dated 9th May 1899, forwarding the Assessment Report for Shahjahanpur and Tilhar Tahsils. Briefly the system I suggested was pecuniarily more beneficial to the zamindar and was approved by Government.

- 23. Though as I have shown before the net gain to Government by this new settlement measured in rupees is only Rs. 3,019 and the result expressed in the relative value of rupees as against gold and against most food grains is a diminution of the annual value of the revenue demand the result should be extremely be neficial to the district at large, and ultimately at the end of the period of settlement, profitable to the State. Obviously, as in the past, so in the future, the stability of the settlement rests ultimately on the course and nature of the seasons. All that care could do to ensure a moderately assessed and impartially distributed revenue demand has been done.
- 24. The cost of assessment is estimated at Rs. 57 per square mile. The cost of revision of records cannot yet be gauged as there is a considerable amount of record work remaining to be done. I do not propose therefore to comment on Chapter V beyond saying that as far as I have seen them the records appear to have been attested with care and prepared with despatch. The statement of case work speaks for itself, and in view of recent orders curtailing reports I need not comment thereon. Mr. Last's encomia on his coadjutors and subordinates are endorsed by me.
- 25. Mr. Last has worked hard and untiringly. His proposals were generally clearly defined and acceptable though occasionally his deductions appeared intuitive rather than based on expressed reasoning and further reference was necessary. I know that if his settlement result in a period of 30 years' successful working of the initially sound revenue demand now fixed, he will feel himself more than rewarded for he takes a deep personal interest in his work.

The crystallization of settlement procedure into rules more and more rigid as time goes on leaves little room for originality. Mr Last's business was to carry out the Board's rules and he has done this with energy and care. His proposals were based on intimate acquaintance with local conditions and were judiciously framed. His supervision over others engaged in the settlement was not the least of the good points in his work.

DOMESTICS.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient servant,
A. W. CRUICKSHANK,

Commissioner.

No.  $\frac{545}{F-10-27}$  of 1901.

FROM

THE SETTLEMENT OFFICER,
SHÁHJEHÁNPUR,

To

THE COMMISSIONER,

ROHILKHAND DIVISION,

BAREILLY.

Dated Shahjehanpur, the 25th April 1901.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Final Report on the settlement of the Shahjehanpur District.

I have the honour to be, SIR, Your most obedient servant,

W. A. W. LAST,

Settlement Officer.

### No. $\frac{544}{F-10\cdot 26}$ , dated 25th April 1901.

# Final Report of the Settlement of the Shahjehanpur District, 1896—1900-

#### CHAPTER I.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT.

THE last settlement of the Sháhjehánpur district was made in 1870 and expired on the 30th June 1900. The district was cadastrally surveyed in 1895-97 by the Provincial Land Records Survey. I was deputed to the district in October 1896. The last sanctioned assessment was declared in November 1900. Distribution of jama was done from time to time either at or shortly after declaration, and was all done by me personally.

- 2. It was originally determined to have a reassessment merely, and no preparation of a record-of-rights; and the notification bringing the district under settlement was worded accordingly. But during 1897 these orders were changed, and two Deputy Collectors and a regular attestation establishment were deputed from February 1898. The record-of-rights operations therefore were about a year and a quarter behind the assessment operations, and were still further delayed in two tahsils (Sháhjehánpur and Jellalabad) by the fact that a gap of two years had been created between the survey operations and the attestation, rendering the survey papers useless as a basis for attestation, and consequently rendering it necessary to prepare papers afresh. The record-of-rights operations are estimated to be completed by December 1901.
- 3. The Shahjehanpur district is in the south-east corner of Rohilkhand, bordering on Oudh. It stretches from the Ganges in the south-west, where it touches Farrukhabad, up across the Ramganga Garra and Goomtee rivers into the forests of the Terai, where it marches with Pilibhit and Kheri. Its area is 1,721 square miles. The subjoined rectilinear sketch will give an idea of the general lie of the district, and of the position of the tahsils and pergunnahs of which it consists.

BOURSEY.

Record of rights

General description of the district.

7	Name of tabsil	•		Name of Pergunnah.
Sháhjehánpur Ditto Ditto Jellalabad Pawayan Ditto Ditto Filhar Ditto Ditto Ditto Ditto	107 017 018 018 019 100 144 441 009 009	9-0 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	Shábjehanpur. Jamaur, Kant. Jellalabad. Pawayan. Baragaon, Khutar. (Tilhar. Khera Bajhera. Miraupur Katra. Jalalpur.

- 4. Beginning from the south-west, the Ganges khadir is of the usual poor and jungly character. It extends about two or three miles into the district. The country between the Ganges khadir and the Rámganga is a flat clay plain, bearing moderate crops if well watered, but useless and impracticable in drought. The Rámganga basin, about five miles wide, is rich alluvial loam. Beyond the Rámganga basin the country rises to a tableland of bhur, 5 to 10 miles wide, which stretches right across the district from the Oudh border towards Bareilly in the north-west. The bhur is not very bad; its rent averages about Rs. 2 an acre. After the bhur (still going northeast) the land sinks into a plain of middling good loam, with two wedges of clay in it (in pergunnahs Jamaur and Nigohi), which continues across the Garra and right up to the Goomtee. The Goomtee country is bad and sandy, thinly-populated, and very poor. Beyond this comes the beginning of the forests of the Terai, the soil again changing to loam, and the district ends with the Pilibhít border.
- 5. The rivers are shown on the sketch. The main direction of all is from north-west to south-east. The drainage of the whole district is in that direction. The Ganges, Garra and Rámganga are alluvial, and the villages along their banks have for the most part to be quinquennially settled. The others are non-alluvial. The Goomtee, Jhukna and Khanaut are very small, their sources being only a few miles beyond the northern border of the district. Besides the rivers shown on the sketch there are a good many small streams and nullahs, mostly dry in the hot weather, which fall into one or other of the rivers.

6. The climate is comparatively mild and pleasant, lying about half way between the heat and drought of the north-west and the moisture and greenness of the south-east towards Bengal. The average rainfall of the last 9 years is 38.93 inches. The following table indicates the manner in which this amount has been distributed over the different seasons.

Climate and rainfall

Bivers.

Sa

	-		Raí	nfall in inches.		
Year.		December to February.	March to May.	June to August.	September to November.	Total.
1891-92 1892-93 1893-94 1894-95 1895-96 1896-97 1897-98 1898-99 1899-1900	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0	·58 2·73 1·37 4·11 ·35 ·96 4·45 ·75 ·9	1 1-56 19 48 05 -07 -37 -64	29·15 32·41 42·94 20·01 *22·3 31·98 31·98 26·79 26·73	18·69 1·1 12·8 10·41 * 33 8·44 8·52 5·	48·52 37·8 57·3 35·01 23·03 41·45 45·32 33·18 28·78
Total Average	***	16·2 1·8	4·38 ·48	264·29 29·37	65·52 7·28	350·39 38·93

The figures marked \* indicate the cause of the 1897 Famine.

7. The monsoon rains generally begin in the latter half of June, and continue with occasional breaks till about the latter half of September. The Christmas rains are rather uncertain, both as to time and quantity; but there are practically always some. From its position near the foot of the Hills—the northern border is

about 90 miles from Naini Tâl—this district is probably less liable to suffer from local deficiencies or eccentricities in the monsoon current than districts further to the south and west; but presumably has no advantage as against a failure or deficiency in the monsoon, as a whole. There is no canal irrigation. The sources of irrigation are shallow pends or jheels, kutcha (i. e., temporary and non-masonry) wells, and in some places dammed-up streams and nullahs. None of these sources are, of course, for a moment capable of replacing the ordinary rainfall, but the last two are in most parts of the district capable of supplementing a not too deficient or ill-timed one. It is the exception for wells to be impossible, and the sub-soil water level is only about 12 or 15 feet down. The first mentioned source is practically no protection at all against drought, as, if the rains fail, the pends are not filled.

- 8. The position of the district, as a whole, may perhaps be summarised by saying that the rainfall is ordinarily sufficient and reliable: and that the facilities for irrigation afford fairly adequate protection against eccentricities of rainfall in all but exceptionally bad years.
- 9. As regards health, the north-eastern parts of the Pawayan Tahsil, i. e., the Terai country and the Goomtee country, are very unhealthy, from malaria and bad drinking water. The worst time there is the rainy season and the beginning of the cold weather. The rest of the district is ordinarily healthy and deserves no remark in this respect; except perhaps the country just north af the Ganges, which is rather feverish, though nothing like the country mentioned above.

Communications.

Health.

- 10. The centre of the district is traversed by the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, and the northern portion by the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway; and these two systems are connected, also in the district, by the Pawayan Steam Tramway. The Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway was made (as regards this district) in or about 1873, the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway between 1887 and 1891 and the Pawayan Steam Tramway between 1890 and 1895. The Grand Trunk Road passes through the district, coming into the Jellalabad Tahsil from Fatehgarh, and passing out through the town of Katra on towards Bareilly. The other metalled roads are one which goes from the Grand Trunk Road at Katra to Shahjehanpureity and on to Sitapur, and another which goes from Jellalabad through Shahjehanpur and on to Pawayan. These latter roads were made between 1867 and 1874. The Grand Trunk Road was made earlier. Besides these roads there are numerous unmetalled roads in all directions, for the most part good, and as easy for wheeled traffic as an unmetalled road can ever be.
- 11. Communications may be summarised as distinctly good. There is only one part of the district which is not within easy reach of the railway, and that is the part between the Ganges and the Ramganga.

Towns and trade.

- 12. There are only two towns of importance, Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar; and these are the centre of the main trade of the district, which is in sugarcane. The Rosa Sugar Factory is three miles from Sháhjehánpur.
- 13. The sugarcane trade, setting aside the ordinary grain trade, is the only important trade in the district, and it is exceedingly important. It has two branches, the trade in the sugar refined on the European method by the Rosa Factory and the trade in the sugar refined on the native method by the local khandsaris.\* The latter branch is by far the largest. As near as I can estimate, the Rosa Factory has during the past 10 years dealt with from 10 to 12 per cent. of the cane produced in the district, the balance having been dealt with by the native trade. The Shahjehanpur native-made sugar, called "khand," has great reputation, and is largely experted all over India, to Bengal, Bombay and the Punjab. Shahjehanpur gur is also famous and similarly experted. The greater number of the khandsars are located in the towns of Shahjehanpur and Tilhar, but there are numerous khandsars in the villages also, all over the district.

" Khánd" is the native-made sugar, "khándsari" the man who makes it, "khándsár" tlefactory where it is made.

14. The relation which the sugarcane trade bears to the agriculture of the district is indicated by the following table:—

Year.	-	Total cultivated area.	Sugarcane area.	Percentage of sugar- cane area to total cultivated area.
Last settlement, 1870	***	7,52,376	<b>4</b> 9,094	6·53
Average of last five years		7,38,431	56,953	7·58
Settlement year		6,89,644	54,289	7·87

Note.—It will be observed that the sugarcane area here given for the settlement year does not agree with Statement VI in the Appendix. This is because the figure for the settlement year in the statement VI (according to rule) includes pandri (land prepared for engarcane) while pandri has been excluded from the figure in this table to make it properly comparable with figures of past years, which do not include pandri. This table is altogether exclusive of pandri.

The sugarcane cultivation is diffused very evenly all over the district, except in Tahsíl Jellalabad and the Rámganga portion of pergunnah Khera Bajhera, where there is hardly any. It is thickest round Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar.

- 15. As regards the effect of the sugarcane trade on the agricultural classes, it is beyond doubt a source of very considerable profit to the capitalist zemindar, and to the exceptional cultivator who is able to cultivate independent of advances and can sell his own produce at his own price; but the benefit to the poor cultivators who must have advances—i.e., to the great majority—is not so obvious. The general practice is for the zemindar to advance money for the sowing, on the stipulation that the tenant shall, after the harvest, sell all the cane-juice to him at a fixed price. The price is, as a rule, fixed decidedly low, and while the tenant is obliged to sell his cane-juice at the price named, the zemíndár is not obliged to buy it unless it suits him: which in practice generally means that if the zemíndár finds he has made a mistake and fixed the price too high, the tenant finds himself under the necessity of letting the zemindar have the juice at a reduced price. The extent of the onesidedness of the agreement varies, of course, with the character and power of the zemíndár and the sturdiness of the tenant. Speaking generally, it is to be feared that a large amount of undue influence is habitually used. Certainly the business is a fruitful source of dispute and complaint between zemindar and tenant.
- 16 Putting away details and side issues, the effect of the sugarcane trade upon the agricultural classes comes to this—that to those who possess capital, whether zemindárs or cultivators, the trade is a great source of profit, from the removal of which they would suffer much; but that the place of the ordinary cultivator in the trade is that of the mere labourer, who earns the simple wages of his labour, but derives little profit from the trade itself, except in an indirect and general manner. Doubtless the ordinary cultivator derives some small benefit from growing sugarcane in preference to other crops, or he would not grow it. Undue influence on the part of the zemindárs could not accomplish so much as that. But I think it is fairly safe to say that the benefit to him is reduced to the very minimum for which he can be induced to cultivate the crop, the capitalist absorbing all the remainder.
- 17. The following figures give the population by tahsils at the four periods of census since 1870. The figures exclude the population of the towns of Sháh-jehánpur and Tilhar, and may therefore be regarded as figures of rural population:—

Population.

Court		R	ural populatio	n per square	mile in-	
Censt	18.	Sháhjehánpur.	Jellalabad.	Pawayan.	Tilhar,	Whole district.
1871 1881 1891 1901	944	531 454 499 492	510 453 495 545	442 415 422 378	558 476 525 569	503- 446 478 481

- 18. The heavy decrease between 1871 and 1881 may be attributed without liesitation to the famine of 1877 and the epidemic fever which followed it. Paragraph 37 of the 1881 Census Report may be read in this connexion. In the whole North-Western Provinces and Oudh there were three well-defined geographical tracts where the 1881 census showed a decrease. Of these three, the tract which showed the heaviest decrease was the Central Doab and Eastern Rohilkhand. Sháhjehánpur is almost in the middle of this tract; and it showed the largest decrease of all the edistricts in the province except another district in the same tract—Muttra. There can be no doubt that the 1877 famine was felt in this district very severely indeed.
- 19. The figures after 1881 are easy to read. Recovery set in fairly rapidly in all tabsils except Pawayan, where owing to the unfertility of the soil and the unhealthiness of the climate it was very slow. The famine of 1897 touched Jellalabad very little, and Tilhar practically not at all; but it was felt in the clay and the bhur portions of Shahjehanpur, and in Pawayan the feeble tendency towards recovery was violently checked, and the population thrown back to far worse than it had been even after 1877.

For the state of cultivation in Pawayan corresponding to this decrease of population see paragraph 50.

20. The population of the towns of Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar, which is not included in the figures just given, is shown here:—

Census.	Shábjehánpur.	Tilhar.
1871	72,186	11,326
1881	74,830	15,351
1891	78,522	17,265
1901	72,756	19,146

The Census Officer attributes the decrease in Shahjehanpur since 1891 to the recent withdrawal of the garrison. The withdrawal would naturally take away the occupations of a large number of people of all kinds, and it is common knowledge that many persons affected by it have left the place.

- 21. After making allowance for this consideration, the figures seem to point to a slow but steady growth in Shahjehanpur, and a decidedly rapid growth in Tilhar. The growth of Tilhar is natural enough. The opening of the railway in 1873 at once erected it into a convenient railway station, well placed in the centre of the best sugar and cane growing part of the district.
- 22. Including this town population the total population for the district in 1901 was 9,20,312, or 535 per square mile.
- 23. The prevailing castes of the cultivators are exhibited in the following table:---

Class A—Thakurs.

Brahmans.

Kaisths.

Class B—Kachis.

Muraos.

Kurmis.

Kisáns.

Ahírs.

Mális.

Class C-Others, including Musalmans:-

		Percentage of	total tenant a	rea held by-
Tenure.	Α.	В.	C.	
Exproprietary and occupancy Non-occupancy	***	32 24	39 36	29 40
All tenants	•••	28	37	85

Cultivators.

The only parts where Kurmis are numerous are the good country round Tilhar and the good country near the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway in the north-east. Ahirs are strong in the bhur. Elsewhere Chamárs and Kisáns are the most prominent of the low caste. Musalmans are few. Other castes are found in about the usual proportion all over the country. The cultivators as a class are poor and have little capital, I think.

24. The prevailing tenures are pattidári and joint zemíndári. In the southwest, Jellalabad, Kant and Khera-Bajhera, small resident Hindu pattidárs, mostly high caste, predominate. Round the towns of Sháhjehánpur, Tilhar and Katra these give place a good deal to Musalmans and to Hindus of the mercantile classes, who mostly live in the said towns. In the north-east the land again is found in the hands of high caste Hindus, with a preponderance in this instance of large proprietors. The following figures may be useful:—

	Perce	ntage of	erca under	-	
Single zemín	lári.	Joint ze	níndári,		Pattidári.
22			34	44	
		tage of	arca held b	у—	
н	indus.				
High caste.	Mercan oth		Musalr	naps.	Christians.
59	1	6		23	2

25. As a class, the landlords are certainly poor. The number of men who could be called rich is very small indeed. The only large proprietor is the Rája of Pawayan, whose revenue is a little over Rs. 60,000. The next largest is Rája Narayan Singh of Paraur, who pays about Rs. 10,000. The number of zemíndári estates paying between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 10,000 is:—

			47.70	177770	Number.	Revenue.
Tabsíl	Shábjeháng	ur			42	83,712
-	Jellalabad	***	989	000	***	.**
99	Pawayan	***	100	140	16	53,912
**	Tilhar	***	***	***	15	42,730
			Total	***	78	1,80,354

That is, out of a total revenue for the district of Rs. 11,69,260, only some Rs. 2,50,000, or about 21 per cent., is paid by zemindari estates paying over Rs. 1,000. It is therefore mainly a district of small revenue-payers. Most of the pattidars and proportion of the small zemindars could not live on their rents alone, their shares being too small, but are largely dependent on their own cultivation; and many of them are poor and in debt.

26. The cultivated area at this settlement was 6,89,644 acres; but this figure is somewhat lower than the normal on account of the 1897 famine, the survey and settlement year having in two tahsils (Tilhar and Pawayan) been the famine year 1896-97. The year in Shahjehanpur and Jellalabad was 1895-96. The average cultivation of the five years before the famine was 7,38,431 acres. Cultivation has recovered good deal since 1897, and is now 7,24,767 acres. Of the uncultivated area some 33,000 acres (about 52 square miles) is taken up by the forests of the Terai, and about the same amount in useless bhur and swamp in the Goomtee country. The balance represents the margin of uncultivated land which exists in every village in ordinary cultivated country. The average tenant's holding is five acres, and the average number of acres ploughed by every plough is seven.

27. The crops are shown in statement VI of the appendix. The sugarcane and opium are, where grown, important sources of wealth to the people. The advances given by the Opium Department are a great financial assistance to them: but opium cultivation only pays small and industrious cultivators.

Proprietors.

Cultivation.

Crops.

Irrigation.

- 28. Irrigation is good. The clay country and the bad Goomtee country are the only parts seriously liable to drought. In these parts kutcha wells cannot, as rule, be successfully sunk. In most of the clay country nullah irrigation is generally available, and suffices for ordinary years; but with the least sign of drought the demand for water becomes very imperative. The Goomtee country is altogether unprotected. In the other parts of the district kutcha wells can generally be dug. Water is reached near the surface mostly, seldom deeper than 12 or 15 fect. Masonry wells are rare, the kutcha wells seeming to serve all purposes sufficiently. The people also seldom have capital enough to make wells of masonry.
- 29. The clay country, by which is meant the Bunkuttee circle of Jellalabad, the Bahgul circle of Khera-Bajhera, the greater part of Jamaur and the Khaimus circle of Nigohi, includes some 15 per cent. of the total cultivated area of the district, and the Goomtee country some 7 per cent. And of the clay country about \( \frac{1}{2} \) may be considered fairly well protected by nullah irrigation. Therefore—considering capacity for irrigation broadly, by assessment circles and not field by field—the proportion of the cultivated area of the district which is altogether unprotected by irrigation may be put at about 17 per cent.
- 30. Figures showing actual irrigation, measured field by field, are given in statement I of the appendix. It is difficult to deduce from these figures what the physical capacity for irrigation is, because it cannot be known how far the people have taken advantage of it. In years of good rainfall many fields which could be irrigated if necessary are not irrigated because they do not require it; and in years of drought many fields which might be irrigated are not irrigated because the people have not the strength or the capital to irrigate them in time.
- 31. I may conclude by quoting the following paragraph from Mr. Currie's report; which I think is as applicable now as it was in his time, 1970.
- "Irrigation is not a sine qua non in this district as it is in the Doab, and from the fact of the water level being only a few feet from the surface, and kutcha wells being made with great facility, irrigation is possible almost anywhere, and can be arranged for speedily, though no traces of wells may be visible a week or ten days before irrigation actually commences. The area actually irrigated in any one year depends, therefore, more on the season and necessity for irrigation than on the capability of irrigation. The area entered as irrigated is that ordinarily irrigated in average years, not the area capable of irrigation, or protected area, irrespective of harvest or crop. Out of a total cultivated area of all but 71 lacs of acres, nearly five lacs are irrigable, chiefly from wells, but in some pergunnals extensively from ponds and rivers; and there are from 87,000 to 90,000 acres of khadir or terai lands not requiring irrigation; so that more than 53 lacs of acres, or about 772 per cent., out of a total cultivated area of under 71 lacs, are either irrigable or independent of irrigation, and only one lac sixty seven thousand acres, or about 221 per cent., are incapable of irrigation in the whole district. So long, then, as the present rainfall and regular winter rains continue, and the water level remains unchanged, it seems a self-evident proposition that canals are not required in this district, and are more likely to do harm than good, by raising the water level, causing a spread of malaria. and possibly growth of reh, where there is none whatever now."
- 32. Rents are practically all in each, and have been so for at least 100 years. Only exceptionally precarious lands here and there are grain-rented. The rents are mostly rents by rates on the kutcha bigha, which is about one-sixth of an acre; but in the more advanced parts of the district the tendency is more for new holdings to be let at lump rents. In the Pawayan tahsil the rate often varies with the crop sown. There is very generally a differential rate for sugarcane.
- 33. As regards high and low-caste rents, it is the result of my obversation in this settlement that except near the large towns, were competition for land is keen, caste has a decided influence upon rent. Whether or not there exists any definite or understood custom on the subject, it is an almost universal fact that high-caste tenants pay less rent than low-caste. The high-caste are sure to be unconsciously

Rents.

lavoured to some extent, if not consciously; while they are also worse cultivators than the low-caste; their women do not work in the field, and it is much harder to get rent out of them: which things seem a sufficient explanation.

The following caste statement gives the figures :-

		All-round recorded rent rate paid by-											
Tenure.		Α.	c.										
Exproprietary and occupancy Non-occupancy	•••	Rs. a. p 3 1 0 3 4 0	Rs. a. p. 3 11 0 3 8 0	Rs. a. p.									
All tenants	•••	3 2 0	3 9 0	3 8 0									

Class. A.—Thákurs, Bráhmans and Kaisths.

- " B.-Kachis, Muraos, Kurmis, Kisáns, Ahírs and Mális.
- ,, C.—Others, including Musalmans.

Ahirs might, perhaps, have been more appropriately included in class C; but by the time I found this out it was too late to change. In tendency to pay low rents and in indisposition to submit to exactions they incline to resemble the high-caste.

The difference between high and low-caste rents may be put at two annas in the rupee, as a rough average. This was the difference which I generally found suitable for the purposes of assessment and fixation of rent.

#### CHAPTER II.

#### FISCAL HISTORY.

Fiscal history.

34. The fiscal history of the district has, it must I fear be allowed, been a history of over-assessment for many years, of trouble in revenue and comparative stagnation in rents. The comparison of the demands in the old settlements with the demand which has now been decided to be a fair one in this settlement speaks much in this behalf. It is:—

Settloment.		Demand.		
				Rs.
Mr Christian's	***	***	***	10,22,324
Mr. Muir's, 1840		***	***	9,75,273
Mr. Currie's, 1870	***	***		11,84,425
" after reduction		***	***	11,66,241
This settlement	***	***	***	11,69,260

- 35. Mr. Muir's was the first long-term (30 years) settlement made in this district. Before him all the settlements were for short terms. Mr. Christian's was the last of the short-term settlements, and was the 8th; so that the average term of settlement up to 1840 appears to have been about 5 years. Correct figures for these early settlements are not ascertainable; but Mr. Muir's opinion was that their general tendency was to undue severity in assessment and to too little restraint in enhancement; that this had been particularly the case in the 8th settlement, and that the distressed state which he as a fact found the district to be in was mainly attributable to this cause. He made considerable reductions in every pergunnah except Khutar.
  - 36. Mr. Currie's opinion of Mr. Muir's settlement was as follows :--
- "I think that Mr. Muir's was a good settlement; that he apportioned his reductions according to the exigencies of the case as then apparent; and that he not only saved the district from impending ruin, but gave a healthy impetus to industry and improvement which has borne good fruit, as is abundantly evident from this present report, and the large increase of cultivation and revenue. Mr. Muir's assessment was, as a rule, somewhat heavy at its commencement, although a considerable reduction on its predecessor, and punitive measures for the collection of the revenue, as well as transfers caused by its pressure, were rather numerous in the first ten or twelve years of the settlement; but these became gradually less as extension of cultivation and general development and improvement took place, and after permanent reductions of revenue had been granted in all cases of marked severity."
- 37. Mr. Currie, therefore, considered the district in 1870 practically recovered from the evil effects of the settlements previous to Mr. Muir's and in a condition to bear enhancement on Mr. Muir's demand. It is, I think, now generally allowed that his view was somewhat too optimistic, and that he took too much enhancement; but this remark must be qualified by stating that it does not apply to the district universally, but only to parts of it, and by recalling that his settlement had within a short time of its commencement to face the famine of 1877, a calamity which would upset any calculations.
- 38. The settlement of 1870 was made not on actuals as Mr. Currie then found them, but on what he considered would become actuals as soon as the pressure of the enhanced demand began to be felt. The Board have said: "The assessment, being based on what were termed the gross potential assets, took into account prospective extensions of cultivation and enhancements of rent; and thus largely discounted, if it did not help to check, future improvement." Mr. Currie's demand fell at 55 per cent. of actual assets as we should now calculate them, and in some places the enhancement also was heavy. In pergunnah Khutar, where there had been large extension of cultivation, it was 78 per cent. It was made progressive there.
  - 39. The following extracts from recent correspondence are to the point:-
- "The last settlement of the district is now admitted to have been originally severe. It has been necessary, from time to time, to grant considerable reductions and remissions of revenue, and there are still estates in which the assessment is a heavy burden. The existing demand is collected with greater difficulty than is experienced in any other of the Rohilkhand districts."

Secretary, Board of Revenue, No. 1202N
venue, No. 1-579
dated 17th July
1895, to Chief Secretary to Government, paragraph 2.

Secretary, Board of Revenue, No. 1202N | 1-579 | dated 17th July 1895, to Chief Secretary to Government, paragraph 2.

"There can be no doubt, I think, that the district has suffered from over-assessment during many settlements, and that its development has been greatly retarded in consequence. The villages and the inhabitants have an unusually squalid and poverty-stricken look; and except in the busy markets of Shahjehanpur and Tilhar, there are few or no signs of wealth."

"The revenue history of Shahjehanpur, unlike that of other districts recently reported on, is far from being a record of agricultural progress and growth of rents. The only material improvement has been in communications. The population is smaller than it was in 1871, and according to the Director's returns there has been practically no expansion of cultivation. There has been no improvement in the means of irrigation. The statistics, in fact, show a large decrease in the irrigated area, which, however, is probably due to the character of recent seasons. To the same cause may be attributed the changes in the method of cultivation referred to in paragraph 14 of the Director's report, which do not indicate any real and general improvement in the system of agriculture. Prices have risen, as in other districts, but there has been no corresponding development in rents."

"The Famine of 1877..... evidently struck a serious blow at the prosperity of the district. The population which in 1872 was 949,471 fell to 857,885 in 1881, and in 1891 it was 918,551, or over 30,000 short of the population at settlement. In this respect Sháhjehánpur differs from Bijnor, where the population, despite a temporary check between 1872-1881, had increased by 56,000 during the currency of settlement." It will be observed that these remarks were made before the 1897 famine.

40. The following statements illustrate the working of the settlement in respect of realization of revenue:—

Statement showing the reductions, remissions, and balances of revenue in the Shahjehanpur district from 1872 to 1899.

i	i	1			73		e dori		M.					-			
	ł				1760	гев	e abrii	og i	ne ;	year -	'n,						
Year.	Balance of revenue.	Hemission.	By revision of assess- mentatrogular	By summary reduction of revenue on account of over-assesument or any other cause.			By deluvion.			By Government appro- priation.			Der oner Adi	one of the factor	То		
	Rs.	Ra.	Rs.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	2.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs, s	ь. р.	Rs.	s.	p.
1872-1873 1873-1874 1874-1875 1875-1876	4,528 5,859 60,849 10,705	3,981 2,499 2,263 23,053	7,704 5,082	150	0	0	300 305 1,877	 0 0 6	0 0		***	•	1,703 621 380	0 0 0 0 0 0	9,407 6,093 835 1,877	0 0 0 6	0 0 0
1876-1877 1877-1878 1878-1879 1879-1880	17,738 81,106 23,581 21,129	4,306 7,512 5,561 4,412	***	180	0	0	1,593 605 585 2,956	0 0 0	0 0 0	35 1 76 116	0 0 0	0 0	••	•		12 0 0	0 0 0
1880-1881 1881-1892 1882-1883 1883-1884	15,359 21,290 27,850 19,504	9,336 14,207 4,667 13 294		6,835 30 60 2,623	0 0 0 2	0 0 0	276 2,407 2,684	1 10 0	0 0	3 13 24	0 0	0 0	78 206 544 267		7,189 2,646 3,301 2,914	2	3835
1884-1885 1885-1886 1886-1887 1887-1888	11,001 21,563 6,590 3,780	4,411 35,21 <b>2</b> 22,964 2,659	***	461 13,719 70	0	0 6 0	1,440 1,084 932	 0 0	0 0	199	 0	0	150 162 197	10 1 15 5	611 15,322 1,550 1,050	10 4 1	1 11 0 6
1888-1889 1889-1890 1890-1891 1891-1892	3,595 8,930 5,475 18,863	2,249 5,677 6,826 1,815	•••	600	0	0	1 046 1,426 1,123 2,573	0 6 7	0 0 3 1	13 106 10	 10 0 0	0 0	79 164	4 6 15 1 10 6	1,125 2,204 1,512	4 15 1	6 1 9 4
1892-1893 1893-1894 1894-1895 1895-1896	1,925 5,971 61,469 188,641	4,449 1,562 1,372 1,170	***	459 157	0 4	0	490 589 384	n	0	99		0	108 48 111 23	8 6 5 2 9 6	1,067 791 495 333	0 1 9	9 11 6
1896-1897 1897-1898 1898-1899	558,214 115,220 81,669	944 12,780 32,631	***	20	` o	0	1,397 2,970		0	6 54		0		3 <b>13</b> 6	546 1,406 3,024	13 0	0 6

Director of Land Re-2209 cord's No. 11-32, dated 4th March 1895, to Board of Revenue, paragraph 26.

Secretary, Board of Revenue, No. 1202N 1-579 dated 17th July 1895, to Chief Secretary to Government, paragraph 2.

Commissioner, Robilkband Division's No. 5474 1-47, dated 11th May 1895, to Board of Revenue, paragraph 4.

( 12 )
Statement of coercive processes for recovery of arrears of revenue, district Shahjehanpur.

						Writs	of den	and.					
		ic.	rning sued.			which	issued in s		Pre	ocess-se	rvers' fe	e.	
Year.		Number of maháls in district.	Number of mabals concerning which write of demand issued.	Number of writs,	Number per mabál.	Arrears on account of writs issued.	Largent number of write i on any single mabal	Amount of fees leviable, arrears.	Amount of fees leviable, current.	Bealized.	Disbursed.	Sarplas.	Deficit.
1			3	4	5	6	7	8	9_	10	11	12	13
18791880	•••	3,150	995	1,358		2,32,254	•••	141		***			
1880—1881	***	3,164	884	1,239		2,34,980	***			•==	***		
1881—1882	•••	3,167	873	1,198	1	2,21,989	4	1,046		900	692	208	
18821883	**	3,171	636	854	1	1,83,565	4	640		640	566	74	
18831884		3,200	740	849	1	2,19,109	8	=	637	681	670	11	
1884—1885	***	3,203	1,054	1,069	1	2,25,344	1	7	802	809	514	295	
1885— <b>1</b> 886	***	3,207	1,003	991	1	1,85,632	2	•••	765	765	582	183	
1886—1887		3,216	846	848	1	1,53,617	1	***	683	683	588	145	
1887-1888	•••	3,234	601	598	1	<b>1,18,81</b> 6	2	•	449	449	<b>34</b> 9	100	
1888—1889		3,253	764	729	1	1,68,144	2	***	547	547	467	80	
1889—1890		3,255	839	762	1	1,20,706	2		572	572	523	49	,
1890-1891	,	3,260	685	644	1	82,258	2		483	483	400	83	
1891—1892		3,270	592	596	1	77,771	2		447	446	434	12	
1892-1893		3,305	610	610	1	76,014	1	1	457	458	395	63	
1893—1894	-**	3,362	<b>46</b> 6	466	1	58,008	1		349	848	190	158	
1894—1895		3,478	424	424	1	61,949	1	1	318	299		299	
1895—1896		3,515	763	<b>6</b> 26	1	<b>97,</b> 690	1	20	469	449		449	
18961897	•••	3,595	297	136	1	62,413	1	41	102	66		66	
1897—1898		3,595	308	99	***	62,649	1	77	74	100	19	81	
1898—1899		3,595	646	306	1	903,91	1	52	<b>22</b> 9	273	47	226	
18991900	***	3,595	542	244	1	73,835	1	•	183	190	32	158	
Total		69,785	14,568	14,646	18	28,07,128	33	1,945	7,566	9,158	6,418	2,740	
Average		3,323	694	697	1	1,33,673	2	500	360	436	306	130	

Statement of coercive processes for recovery of arrears of revenue, district Shahjehanpur—(continued).

		Arrest :	and deten	tion.			Distre	ss and	sale of mo	y.	Attachment of shares, pattis or maháls.				
Years.	Number of maháls in which process issued,	Number of persons arrested.	Arrears on account of which presess issued,	Number of defaulters actually detained.	Average term of deten- tion.	Lougest term any single defaulter was detained.	Number of maháls in which processissued.	Number of defaulters.	Arrents on account of which process issued,	Number of cases in which sale actually took place.	Avream due in these cases.	Amunt recovered by sale of distraint property.	Number of maháls, sheres or pattis attached,	Revenue of such maháls, shares or pattis.	Arrears on account of which process issued.
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		23	24	25	26	27	28
1879-1880	29	47	9,979	***	•••		115	90	5,906		***	***	•••	•••	•••
1880-1881	74	181	29,878	•••	•••		137	155	15,518			4++	5	798	575
1881-1882	182	240	41,958			•••	194	214	44,664	16	1,063	441	44	14,927	6,958
1882-1883	<b>3</b> 6	51	6,188	5,5 0			266	194	25,060		3,233	586	7	2,402	919
1883-1884	94	68	7,385	***	•••		206	307	22,471	3	37	28	6	1,819	822
1884-1885	•••		***				223	169	16,329		404	109	=	190	190
1885-1886	37	1	1,535	1	8		246	251	21,052	22	2,031	985	18	5,890	2,270
<b>188</b> 6-1887	513	81	51,425	1	1	1	158	100	10,863	16	1,543	335	1	191	82
1887-1888	179	21	26,597	1	5	5	215	340	23,957	17	1,220	510	3	2,022	1,454
<b>1888-1</b> 889	167	10	26,746		<b></b> .		183	195	17,153	11	648	354	18	5,181	4,407
1889-1890	133	18	24,173	7	2	2	145	177	10,439	16	1,010	687	12	3,598	1,291
<b>189</b> 0-1891	56	10	11,652	3	1	2	129	130	12,599	4	926	179	3	7,448	4,043
1891-1892	25	4	5,823	1	4	4	73	78	43,230	5	542	<b>52</b> 8	5	26 <b>6</b>	300
1892-1893	42	9	10,946			6	45	51	5,037	7	1,260	955	22	8,700	8,700
1893-1894	57	23	6,378	7	6	15	52	57	6,576	3	28	8	18	4,020	8,353
<b>1894</b> -1895	85	<b>2</b> 3	12,547	16	3	15	<b>27</b> 6	252	43,547	12	1,658	1,025		***	• • • •
<b>18</b> 95-1896	213	52	47,800	27	5	15	357	217	78,860	14	1,659	749	38	9,660	5,457
<b>18</b> 96-1897	125	<b>3</b> 9	28,228	17	5	15	111	49	5,464	8	2,142	577	114	28,524	24,290
1897-1898	202	41	38,711	28	9	15	<b>24</b> 9	193	22,405	16	4,000	2,348	159	68,977	90,014
<b>1898-</b> 1899	174	78	46,168	64	8	15	731	<b>5</b> 60	74,105	69	17,815	5,359	87	24,320	27,745
1899-1900	184	41	14,873	27	6	15	921	794	1,00,461	51	14,443	522	88	25,200	32,352
Total	2,607	1,021	1,48,990	205	66	133	5,032	4,573	6,05,696	303	55,662	16,235	650	2,13,623	2,15,222
Average	124	49	21,380	10	3	6	240	218	28,843	14	2,651	773	31	10,173	10,249

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Statement of coercive processes for recovery of arrears of revenue, district

Shahjehanpur—(concluded).

						Annulment of settlement.						Salm. Of maháls or pattis. Of other immoveable						
		Tre	nsfer.			Farm			ment.				s or pat	tis.	property.			1010
<b>Үеа</b> г.	Number of maháls in which shares or pattis were transferred.	Number of shares or pattis transferred.	Revenue of such shares or pattis.	Arrears on account of which process issued.	Number of msháls or pattis farmed.	Berenne of such maháls ur pattis.	Arrears for which farmed.	40 1	Revenue of such n or pattis,	for w	Number of mahals or pattis sold.	Revenue of such maháls or pattis.	Arrears for which sold.	2	Number of mal pattis on acco	Revenue of such maháls or pattis.	Arrears for which sold.	Amount realized by sale.
1	29	30	31	12	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44,	45	46
1879-1810	0	6	1,521	515	1	58	35	•••	***	***	***		•••	144		111	***	***
1880-1881	7	7	862	827	4	387	387	•••	•••	***		400	100	***	***		444	***
1881-1882	2	2	6811	144		***	***	2	140	167	***	***	101	***	***	•••	•••	75.00
1882-1883	5	5	673	435	2	283	211	***	•••	***	***	644	***	***	***	***	***	
1883-1884			• • •	•••		•••	***	***	•••	***	1	450	562	562	1,,,	•••		***
1884-1885	2	2	340	211		141	•••		•••	***	***	•••	***	***	***	•••	•••	114
1885-1886	1	1	85	95	•••	***	***	***		<b>)</b>	***	•••	***	***	4800		•••	***
1886-1887	4	4	859	983			•••	6.19	***	***	1	635	1,443	1,443	***		•••	***
1887-1888	2	4	<b>■,7</b> 87	1,269		***	***		020	700	***	•••	•••	484		***	•••	449
1888-1889		•••	***	•••	1	20	61	900	***	,	447		•••	4**		•••	***	***
1889-1890	3	3	236	148				***	***	***	1	635	172	172		•••	•••	8 8 4
1890-1891	1	1	201	127		•••	•••	***		•••	eed		•••	444	•••		*4*	***
1891-189W	***		•==	***		***	***	***	***	***	1	<b>M</b> 35	2,363	5,000			•••	114-
<b>1892-189</b> 3	8	3	82	140	8	899	602		***	***		***	•••	•••	]	•••	•••	144.
1893-1894	1	1	219	317	2	218	219		***		1	738	630	630				•••
1804-1895			***		1	86	53	•••		***	21	156	313	313				****
1895·18 <b>n</b> 6	1	1	121	241	***	•		1	232	464	•••	•••		•••		***		***
1896-1897	1	1	22	38		***	•••	2	348	597				•••		•••		448.
1897-1898	***		***		***		***	***	***	4-+				214	٠,,			***
<b>1898-18</b> 99	2	2	192	230		***	•••	***		***	\$28	525	C 66	**1			•••	
1899-1900	1	1	231	53		•••		•••		•••	•••	***	•••	•••				***
Tatal	42	44	12,115	5,773	19	1,951	1,568	5	720	1,228	26	3,24	5,483	8,120			***	
Average	. 2	2	577	275	1	93	75		34	58	1	155	261	387			•••	

- 41. The unfortunate state of things indicated above mainly refers to two pergunnahs, Pawayan and Khutar. Jellalabad has been a troublesome tahsil, but in my opinion the cause has been, not overassessment, but the complex pattidári tenure which prevails there and the absence of a well-ordered lambardári system to cope with it. An attempt has been made at this settlement under the orders of the Board to re-establish the lambardári system on a satisfactory basis, and if the reformed system is adhered to and kept in working order, there is every reason to hope that things will be better in the future.
- 42. The reductions which had to be granted so soon after the beginning of the settlement were nearly all in the Pawayan and Khutar pergunnahs, and chiefly in Khutar. It was found that the Settlement Officer had allowed insufficiently—though he did allow something—for the fact that the year of assessment was an unusually favourable year and the cultivated area unusually large: and that his anticipations as to rise of rent and extension of cultivation had not been fulfilled.
- 43. Cases of overassessment existed in other parts of the district also, but they were isolated cases, generally occurring in villages which were, and are still, uncertain villages and difficult to assess. The most even and moderate settlement was, I think, that of tahsil Tilhar. This was done by the Assistant Settlement Officer, Mr. Butt. The settlements of the Sháhjehánpur and Jellalabad tahsils, though less even and less moderate than that of Tilhar, resulted in nothing like the state of things that resulted in Pawayan. All these three tahsils have admitted of small enhancement at this settlement, while the Pawayan tahsil has required heavy reduction.
- 44. The following statement shows the transfers which have taken place in landed property between 1879 and 1900:—

Transfera

Comparative statement of proprietary mutations registered under orders of Civil and Revenue Courts or by private transfer, consequent on sale or mortgage, etc., during the agricultural years 1879-1900.

řer.	Sale of revenue free lands.	Mumber of cases.  Hestimated land revenue of property transferred.	16 17 18	Rs. Rs.		53 120 10,929 64 255 8,441	228	261	150	247	108	88	110	821	187	187	221		75	972 3,968 2,17,044	46 189 10,335
By private transfer.	lands.	Number of years' pur- chase of the revenue.	15			::			_							_		7 8		240	=
By	revenue-paying lands	Price.	74	Bs				1.83.522					2,87,149		1,80,054			_		48,53,219	2,31,106
	Sale of reve	eursyst braf streege de bestroege de bestroe	66	Re	-	20,310	_			5 11,142		_	6 15,756		_		_	4 14,945 8 15,086		2 3,42,808	16,324
	22	Total number of cases.	11 12			200 463	Н				178 323								238 471	4,179 7,612	199 362
		Number of other cases.	10		-	8 =									_			_	£	752 4,1	36
	ands.	Aumber of years' purchase of the rovenue (assum-	6		:	: :	:	:	9	31	28	_	_	- Proof	<b>3</b> 5		29	55.2	:	848	9
ئد	Sale of rezenue free lands.	Price.	80	RS.	157	684	732	289	269	872	850	80	1,39%	1,620	3,146	2,444	808	1,173		18,866	868
Under orders of court.	of reze	Estimated land revenue of property transferred.	1-	B.B.		8 6		<b>13</b>		12			66 C	_		90 S		18	i ;	432	21
er order	Salc	Number of cases.	<u>ت</u>			- E			90			8				07 - 2		123		149	8 7
Und	lands.	Mumber of years' purchase	1 20		9	: ; ;			: 0	9							200		17	2 171	-
	Sale of revenue paying lands.	Price.	4	in i	53,066	75,823			46,886		74,475	_, _				_	1,17,615	1,69,316	1,63,725	17,71,042	84,335
	e of reven	Aggregate land revenue to properted.	8	R.	8,931	9,839			_		6,190 8,408		6,230			0,000 0 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0 0,000 0	8,794	10,125	9,791	1,68,275	
	Sale	Number of cases.	61		80	128	164	159	112	152	148	113	136	137	170	181	161	212	202	3,278	156

Taking columns 3 and 13, this means that land paying some 43 per cent. of the total revenue of the district has been sold during the last 21 years, about \(\frac{1}{3}\) under order of court and \(\frac{3}{4}\) by private sale.

- 45. The area transferred affords useful information, but too much stress must not be laid upon the prices realised. In as much as the rental value of the land transferred may be anything from 7 or 8 rupees down to 4 or 5 anuas an acre, it is clearly impossible to draw any sound inference from the average price realised till the average rental value is to some extent known. The labour of acsertaining the average rental value, even if it be possible to ascertain it, would be enormous.
- 46. Subject to the above remarks, the difference between the prices fetched for revenue-paying and revenue-free lands tends to show that many of the former must have been heavily assessed.
- 47. Though the area transferred since 1870 has been considerable it does not appear that there has been any marked tendency for the land to pass from the agricultural to the non-agricultural classes during this period, but rather from one person in the agricultural class to another person in the same class. Between 1840 and 1870, according to the last Settlement Report, the area held by the non-agricultural classes was nearly trebled; but the advancement of these classes since 1870 appears to have been slight. The following are the figures:—

Year.	Precentage of area held by non-agricultural classes.
1840 1860 1870 1900	13 17 19

Some explanation is required as to what is meant by the non-agricultural classes in these figures. They mean Hindus of the mercantile castes, such as Bunniahs and Mahájans, etc., and Muhammadans whose main profession is trade and who have only acquired their zemíndáris recently. This was the distinction adopted by Mr. Currie, and I have of necessity had to follow it as far as possible in order to permit comparison between his figures and the present. Which Muhammadan estates Mr. Currie included in each category cannot now be ascertained, but it is clear from what he says that he included the great majority in the agricultural class, on the ground of their being hereditary zemíndárs. It is still true that the great majority of the Muhammadan zemindárs are of old land-holding stock and not new men. The knowledge of what Muhammadan estates Mr. Currie classed as non-agricultural not being definite, it did not appear to me worth while to attempt to obtain definite figures now. I have therefore made a guess merely, and have taken the of the existent Muhammadan estates to belong to the non-agricultural class as defined by Mr. Currie. The Muhammadan estates make up 23 per cent. of the district. I have therefore taken ith of this or 3 per cent. and added this to the percentage held by the Hindu mercantile castes, which is 16. This is the manner in which the figure given above, 19 per cent., has been obtained. If the reliability of the 3 per cent. estimate be disallowed, we at any rate can make the statement that 59 per cent. of the district is still held by Hindus of the land-holding castes, and 23 per cent. by Muhammadans of whom the great majority are undoubtedly of land-holding stock. My own opinion is that the 3 per cent. estimate is near enough for the purpose of the argument.

## CHAPTER III.

COMPARISON OF PRESENT CONDITION OF DISTRICT WITH THAT IN 1870.

48. Statements I and VI in the appendix compare the present with the former condition of the district as regards cultivation, irrigation and crops. The question of irrigation has been dealt with in paragraph 28 above. Irrigation conditions have not changed since last settlement.

As explained above, the figures for "year of verification" in the table are to some extent vitiated by the 1897 Famine. In Statement VI the average of the last five years affords the best indications.

49. The most noticeable changes in cultivation and crops since 1870 are the partial replacing of wheat by barley and mixed rabí crops: the increase in the rabí sown after kharíf (dofasli): the increase in the rice at the expense of bajra and juar: the increase of opium: and the increase of sugarcane. With regard to this last it must be noted that the figure for the settlement year includes pandri (land prepared for sugarcane), while the figures for previous years do not. The amount of pandri included is 20,352 acres. Deducting this, there appears a slight decrease in absolute area in the settlement year, but a slight increase relative to total cultivated area. The percentages of sugarcane area to total cultivated area are:—

	Year.				l'ercentages.
Last settlement 1870	***	***	***	911	6.53
Average of last five years	***	***	***	•• [	7.58
This settlement year	***	***	***	•••	- 7.87

50. The cultivation figures given in the appendix may be supplemented by the following, which compare the different tahsils one with another:—

		Percen	tage of cultivat	ed area to tot	ul area.
Tahsil.		In 1870.	Average of five years ending 1895.	Year of settlement, 1895-1897.	1899 (1307F).
1		2	3	4	5
Shahjehanpur Jellalabad Pawayan Tilhar	***	71·63 61·91 65·21 70·72	69·74 64·69 58·91 74·12	69·74 64·53 48·63 74·31	72·07 68·03 62·52 77·07
Total	***	67:38	66.13	62:62	65.81

In tabsils Pawayan and Tilhar the year of settlement (i. e., of survey) fell in the Famine of 1897, while the survey in Shahjehanpur and Jellalabad took place just before it. This remark is made in order to avoid misunderstanding. Columns 3 and 5 are the columns most to be looked at.

- 51. The part which has gone out of cultivation in Pawayan is the bad, unhealthy and precarious country of the Goomtee, comprising the Tareona-Goomtee and Samwat-Bhainsi Circles of pergunnah Pawayan and the Jhukna Circle of pergunnah Khutar. A full account of this country is given in the Tahsil Assessment Report. For the corresponding decrease in population see paragraph 17 of this report.
- 52. Against this falling off there has been a slight extension of cultivation in the forest country along the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway.
- 53. As regards the possibility of further extension of cultivation, the Shahje-hanpur and Tilhar tahsils possess practically none. In them the uncultivated land is practically all either barren or else required for purposes other than cultivation. In Jellalabad there is still waste land left, mostly dauk and scrub jungle, which may be cultivated: but there is not very much, and what there is looks of poor quality, being largely tainted with usar. In Pawayan the possibilities lie in the reclamation of the abandoned bhur lands on the Goomtee and in the clearing and cultivating of the forest, of which there is about 50 square miles.

54. The following figures give the present and former extent of proprietary cultivation.

Proprietary cultiva-

			1870	).	1900.					
Tahsíl-		Percentage of seer.	Percentage of khud kasht.	Total.	Percentage of total actually cultivated by proprie- tors.	cent	Per- cent- age of khud kasht.	Total.	Percentage of total (i.e., preceding column) actu- ally cultivated by proprie- tors.	
Sháhjehánpur Jellalabad Pawayan Tilbar	•••	14 24 9 15	Included in seer.	14 24 9 15	Not available.	10 15 6 10	4 8 4 3	14 23 10 13	61 69 72 63	
Whole district	•••	14		14		10	4	14	66	

55. The following figures show the history of occupancy right since 1870: -

Loss or retention of occupancy right.

		}	Percent	age of total	tenant area	under.		
Tabail.		18	370.		ment before tation.	This settlement after attestation.		
		Occupancy.	Non-occu- pancy.	Occupancy.	Non-oocu- pancy.	Occupancy	Non-occu- pancy.	
1		B	3	4	5	6	7	
Sháhjehánpur Jellalatad Tilhar Pawayan	08* *** ***	78 69 80 60	22 31 20 40	44 41 44 35	<b>56</b> 59 56 65	73 66 70 65	27 34 30 35	
Whole district	•••	71	29	41	59	69	31	

The central pair of columns has been given in order to make clear the fact that column 6 does not represent merely the survivals of column 2. The survivals of column 2 are represented by column 4, less the probably not large number of tenants who were decreed fresh occupancy right by the rent courts between 1870 and this settlement. If for the sake of example this latter element were put at 6 per cent. out of the 41 per cent. in column 4, it would mean that only about ½ of column 6 was a survival from column 2. It is impossible to ascertain exactly how much of column 4 dates back to 1870, and we can only make an estimate. In my opinion it is justifiable to state the case in this manner, that only about a half, or a very little more than half, of the occupancy right of 1870 has subsisted till 1900; or, in other words, that the occupancy tenants have in the space of a generation lost practically half their land. Of course, there is a constant natural tendency for occupancy right to become extinguished, through lack of heirs, calamities, improvidence and the like; but a rate of extinction amounting to 50 per cent. in a generation would appear rather unduly rapid. The explanation of the undue rapidity is doubtless contained in the two exceptional calamities of 1877 and 1897, and in the fact that many of the occupancy rents fixed at last settlement were somewhat overstrict.

56. Passing to the other phase of the matter, the acquisition of new rights, it is clear that such acquisition has been very freely permitted, and that the landlords as class have offered no general or determined opposition to it. It is probable, from what I know of the landlords and their sentiments, that this attitude on their part is not so much due to any special liking for the occupancy tenant as to the simple fact that tenants are not so plentiful as to create much competition for land. The degree of competition for land may be judged from the two facts that the rural population is now 4½ per cent. less than it was in 1870, and that current market rents are only on the average some 9 per cent. above existent occupancy rents (see

paragraphs 17 and 60). It seems a clear and natural law that a landlord's effective opposition to occupancy right must be in direct proportion to the competition for land. Where there are two or three immediate competitors for every holding which becomes vacant, the landlord will naturally oppose occupancy right; but where he is only too thankful to get tenants at any price he cannot afford to oppose occupancy right—he cannot afford either to vex a tenant with the usual means adopted for checking the right, or to think of breaking him after he has earned it. Landlords of bad villages have told me on several occasions that they regarded their occupancy tenants as the most precious thing in the village, and that they only wished there were more of them: their meaning being of course that an occupancy tenant has a stake in the village, and will stay through a trouble which would make a non-occupancy tenant leave the place at once.

- 57. According to this law, the largest proportion of occupancy right ought to be found in the Pawayan tahsil and the smallest in Tilhar: and it doubtless would be so but for the operation of the equally obvious counteracting law that the more precarious and undesirable the country the less tendency is there for occupancy right to be earned, and the greater tendency for it to be lost; because more non-occupancy tenants will abscond, or be ruined, or die before putting in their 12 years' cultivation, while the occupancy tenant will find it more difficult to pay his rent punctually year by year, and will also feel less incentive to try to do so; and conversely. It may be noted, without laying too much stress on the fact, that in spite of this counteracting law, Pawayan is the only tahsil which has a greater proportion of occupancy right now than in 1870, and that Tilhar, where the demand for land is keenest, has fallen back more than any other tahsil from the proportion of 1870.
- 58. It is difficult to say how much rents have risen, and the problem is complicated by the fact that they have not changed equally in all places. In some places they have undoubtedly risen a good deal, in others they have actually gone down at any rate, land which fetched a certain rent years ago will not fetch it now. This can be seen by comparison of occupancy with non-occupancy rents in the different places. The part where rents appear to me to have risen most are the good loam lands of the Tilhar tahsil. Here new non-occupancy rents are often, in individual cases, 50 to 100 per cent. above the old occupancy rates. The part where rents have shrunk is the bad bhur country about the Goomtee. Here land can often not be let now at within 30 to 50 per cent, of the old occupancy rates. This state of things may in part be temporary, due to the 1897 Famine, which hit the Goomtee country very hard; but I do not think more than in part. The loam country in Tilhar is: about the best land in the district, and the Goomtee country about the worst and most precarious; so this may have something to do with it. But it is also instructive to note that the Tilbar tahsil was the lightest assessed of all at last settlement, and the Pawayan tabsil the heaviest.

In my opinion, the shrinkage of rents where it has taken place is largely attributable to the depressing effect of overassessment, and the excess of old occupancy rents over present market rents to the former having been fixed too high, those now remaining only representing a survival of the fittest; and conversely.

59. In comparing the recorded rents of the 1870 settlement with the rents recorded now, occupancy and non-occupancy, it must be carefully borne in mind that occupancy land is practically always—if a large enough area is taken—better than non-occupancy land. I know this from applying the circle rates to the occupancy and non-occupancy areas in each circle and comparing the results with the recorded demands. This fact deprives us of the possibility of drawing reliable inferences from a comparison of the occupancy and non-occupancy incidences of 1870 and of the present time. Present occupancy incidences may be usefully compared with present non-occupancy incidences, because the circle rate figures in statement VII of the appendix show the comparative value of the soils involved; but we have no means of knowing the comparative value of the occupancy and non-occupancy soils in 1870, so that it is valueless to compare the 1870 occupancy incidence with the

Rise of rent since 1870.

1870 non-occupancy incidence. The only just comparison which can be made between present and past rents is a comparison between present occupancy and non-occupancy taken together and past occupancy and non-occupancy taken together. This comparison is here given:—

			1870.			Percent-		
Tahefl.		Tenants area.	Rental.	Incidence.	Tenants'	Rental.	Incidence.	age of rise.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs. a, p.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	
Sháhjehánput	***	1,54,354	4,56,765	2 15 0	1,57,524	5,66,899	3 10 0	23
Jellalabad	***	1,03,805	3,32,286	3 3 0	1,07,128	8,84,672	3 9 0	12
Pawayan	***	2,29,848	5,12,696	2 4 0	1,79,511	5,06,372	2 13 0	25
Tilbar	***	1,61,198	4,95,604	3 1 0	1,79,658	6,62,713	3 11 0	21
Total	***	6,49,205	17,97,351	2 12 0	6,23,921	21,20,156	3 6 0	23

The figures, as far as they go, indicate a rise of 23 per cent. over the whole district. The rise in Pawayan is partly apparent and not real, due to so much of the worst land having gone out of cultivation:

60. We may now turn from the comparison of present rents with old, occupancy and non-occupancy being taken together, to the comparison of present occupancy rents with present non-occupancy rents. This comparison does not of course help much in establishing the relation between things now and things in 1870; but it is probably the best criterion of existing conditions. It is the comparison between the extreme rent which tenants are willing to offer, but which it still remains to be proved whether they will be able to pay, for land at the present time, and the rent which tenants offered a few years ago and have proved able to pay. It is as follows:—

	Taheil.				Incidence of recorded rental.							of re		l by	feriority of	and non- recorded equal lar occupan	prect relation ween occupancy non-occupancy orded rents on al lands taking upancy rent at 100.	
	1			Occupancy. Non-occu-		Occ	Occupancy. Non-occu- pancy.					from preceding two columns.	Occu- pancy.	Non- occu- pancy.				
	1			2			3			4			5		6	7.		
			Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a,	p.	Rs	. в.	p.	Ra	a.	p				
Sbáhjeháu	pur	***	3.	7	0	3	13	0	3	10	0	3	8	0	4:	100	115	
Jellalabad	***	***	3	11	0	3	10	e	3	11	0	3	8	0	5	100	103	
Pawayan	***	***	3	0	0	2	12.	0	3	0	0	2	10	0.	13	100	105	
Tilbar	***	•••	3 1	10	0	3:	14	0	3	12	0	3	7	0	9	100	117	
	Total	***	3	7	0	3	6	0	3	9	0			0	11	100	109	

On the whole district, therefore, non-occupancy rents are now about 9 per cent. above occupancy rents.

61. In Pawayan the demand for land at the present time is very slack. In the bad parts it is extremely difficult to obtain tenants. This has been the case for some years, and since the 1897 Famine it is much worse. The population figures in paragraph 17 very sufficiently give the reason why. The very low figure in Jellalabad is at first sight surprising, but I think it is explained by so many of the tenants-being small pattidars, co-sharers in the villages of which they are tenants; a fact

which would naturally tend to make rents more regulated by custom and less by competition.

- 62. On the whole district, it is clear from the above figures that there cannot be said to be m keen effective demand for land at the present time.
- 63. The history of the last 30 years as bearing upon the present revision of settlement may briefly be summarised thus. Owing to two Famines, in 1877 and 1897, of which the first seriously affected the whole district and the second practically only the Pawayan tahsil, the rural population has declined from 503 to 481 the square mile, and cultivation has declined (taking the figure of 1307 Fasli, the latest year available) from 67.38 to 65.81 per cent. of total area. Owing to a too sanguine assessment in some places, the effect of the famine was greater than it might otherwise have been. There have been no improvements except the reclamation of a certain amount of waste, which has failed to balance the area fallen out of cultivation. Irrigation conditions are as they were. Communications have been very greatly improved, all the three railways and practically all the metalled roads except the Grand Trunk Road having come into existence since 1870. Rent rates appear to have risen about 23 per cent.
- 64. The nett result of all these things has been that the assets of the district, which were assumed at last settlement at Rs. 23,68,850, have now become Rs. 24,14,245: which remark must be qualified by saying that the last settlement assets have now proved to have been somewhat overestimated.



## CHAPTER IV.

ASSESSMENT.

65. The assessment in this settlement was conducted under the rules in Board's Circular 15—I of 1897. The Settlement Officer had no concern with any theoretical calculation of value. The aim was to ascertain for each estate what income the landlord, assuming him to be a man of reasonable business habits, might be supposed to be in fact receiving. There was also power to raise occupancy rents, where these seemed very low; but under the direction of Government this power was exercised sparingly and with extreme moderation, and only in cases where rents were beyond doubt very low. The extent to which it was exercised will appear from statement No. VII in the appendix. In a few cases occupancy rents were found excessive and were abated. The statement VII gives the nett result.

The same statement also gives the whole valuation of the assets for assessment, shows how the accepted rents compare with the recorded rents, shows how the assumption areas (grain-rented, landlord's cultivation, &c) have been valued, and states what value has been assumed for assessable siwai items. The only siwai item of importance is the forest in the north-east of the district. The manner in which this was valued and assessed is described in detail in paragraph 9 of the Pawayan Assessment Report.

- 66. The assets as calculated for this settlement are Rs. 24,14,245. The new revenue is Rs. 11,69,260. This includes the revenue of alluvial mahals, which were all assessed by me and have been started fresh from this year with a new roster. It does not include the nominal revenue assessed on revenue-free land, which is Rs. 4,624, making a grand total of Rs. 11,73,884.
- 67. In some villages which, owing to the Famine of 1897, or over-assessment, or such causes, were in a deteriorated and distressed condition, light jamas have been imposed for the first five years under Rule 48 to allow them to recover. In others where no anticipation that they would recover in five years or any named period was justifiable, short term settlements for 10 years have been made. These distressed villages are nearly all in tahsil Pawayan, the poorest tahsil and the one which was most severely assessed at last settlement.
- 68. Allowances for improvements have been hardly found necessary at all. The only improvements to allow for were reclamations of jungle and waste, and those only here and there.
- 69. The last settlement demand being Rs. 11,66,241, the nett enhancement has been Rs. 3,019 or ·26 per cent. Rs. 11,69,260 is the final demand. Owing to the operation of Rule 48 and the rules for progressive enhancement and allowance for improvements, this demand will not be realized in full immediately, but as follows:

Years.				Demand.
				Rs.
1900-1904	***	***	***	11,51,984
1905-1909	***	***	***	11,65,283
1910-1914	***	***	***	11,68,390
1915 onwards	***	***	***	11,69,260

70. The preceding paragraphs give the results of the settlement summarised for the district as whole. The following table (which does not include revenue-free) gives the results in more detailed form, and the tables beneath it give an idea of the extent to which readjustment has taken place among the individual villages:—

3,558 11,66,241 24,14,245 11,08,859

221

District

3,337

Number of under Enhance-New jama. mahals. Reduction. ្នែយន ment. Amount deferred Tahsil. years 뜅 Quinquennial or term of settlement. Quinquen-10 years ja∭a. Percentage assets. Регсептяве Percentage Ordinary. \$ LCI Total. Rupees Rupees. rule Total, Old For For Re. Re Rs. Rs. Rs. Rs Rs. Rs. 55 803 2 91,761 6,23,277 Shahjehanpur 858 2,89,47 11,747 3.01.229 **45**3 48 9,46 Jellalabad 2,05,833 104 556 660 2,09,543 4.65.658 l6 **39**5 2,22,228 48 6 12,683 Pa wayan 1,083 1,083<sup>l</sup> 3,32,798 5,96,035 2,78,223 16,482 11 62 2,94,705 2,576 38,093 49 Tilhar 895 957 3,32,139 7,29,275 3,35,328 180 15.597 3,51,105 18,966 90 48

16,662 43,739

11,69,260

Assessment.

Valuation.

New revenue.

Deteriorated villages.

Improvements.

Enhancement.

		:	Number of mahals in which jama has been-									
Tahsf).		Total number of mahals excluding revenue free.	Enlianced	Roduced.	Left unaltered:							
Shahiehanpur		858	501	294	63							
Jellalabad	•••	660	368	181	111							
Pawayan Tilbar	•••	1,083 957	229 536	730 271	124 150							
Total district	***	3,558	1,634	1,476	448							

Number of mahals in which-	Tahsil Shahje- hanpur,	Tahsil Jellala- bad.	Tahsil Paway- an.	Tahsii Tilbar.	Total District
Light jama has been imposed for five years under Rule 48 Enhancement has been made progressive—Rule 46 Enhancement due to reclamation of waste has been deferred for 15 years.	9. 44 ,	53 11	46 66 4	3 80 22	58 252 37

The total amount of revenue deferred for 15 years on account of reclamation of waste is: -

Nil
590
140
710
140

The method in which this has been calculated is described in paragraphs 74-83 of the Shahjehanpur and Jellalabad Tahsil Assessment Report, read with paragraph 7 of the Tilhar Assessment Report. A want of correspondence will be observed between these figures and the improvements allowance shown in the No. VII in the Appendix. The reason is that in Jellalabad and Pawayan I had proposed to spread the allowance over 30 years, but on the Commissioner's recommendation Government preferred to spread it over 15 years only. The number VII figure of course corresponds with my proposals. This is why the figure above (Rs. 1,440) is more than half the allowance from assets in the number VII.

71. The nett gain to Government in this settlement has therefore amounted to practically nothing. But if there has been no gain in revenue demand, I trust there will prove to have resulted a very substantial gain in ease of realization and in the satisfaction of the people. As far as it is possible for me to form an opinion, the new assessments have been received with general content. Appeals have been few, and I have reason to believe that the cases in which the appellants really thought themselves aggrieved were fewer than the appeals. The litigation statement in the appendix gives the figures.

## CHAPTER V.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

72. The cost of the settlement up to the end of February 1901 and its distribution against the two heads of record-of-rights and assessment, appears in the following table:—

Cost of the Settle

	Head.		Total ce	st.	Cost per square mile.
Assessmen t	Pay and travelling allowance of officers  Subordinate establishment and other charges	, Vor	Rs. a 53,803 43,808 1	8 6	Bs.
	Total		97,612	6 11	57
Record-of-right	Pay and travelling allowance of officers Subordinate establishment and other charges	999 997	39,003 1 82,421	2 11 5 9	750
•	( Total	1	1,21,425	2 8	71
	GRAND TOTAL		2,19,037	9 7	128

This distribution has been obtained by debiting "assessment" with two-thirds of the Settlement Officer's pay, all the Assistant Settlement officer's pay, all the cost of the English office and of the distribution of jama, all things which were for the sole benefit of "assessment," and a fair proportion of things which were for the benefit of both heads; and debiting "record-of-rights" with the balance. Assessment having been completed, the figures for "assessment" here given are final. The record-of-rights being estimated to be completed by about December 1901, the figures here shown for expenditure under "record-of-rights" will have to be increased by the amount which is spent between 1st March 1901 and the final closing of the office. The proposed budget allotment for this period is Rs. 30,762. If this is spent in full the whole table will appear thus:—

		-21	Į,	2			Cos	st per-		
		- 60		Ę	1/2/			1,000 ( bold	enants ings.	
	Head.	Total	cost.		Square mile.	Villagu.	Mahal.	Including sub- tenants.	Excluding sub- tenants.	1,000 fields.
		Rs.	<b>a.</b>	p.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Assess.	Pay and travelling allow-	53,803	8	6	•••	e-q'é	444	••• 1	***	***
MENT.	Subordinate establishment and other charges.	43,808	14	5		100	•••	***	•••	4 9 9
	Total	97,612	6	11	57	42	2/7	18	26 .	7
RECORD-	Pay and travelling allow- ance of officers.	41,653	12	11	***	***	568		144	***
BIGHTS. {	Subordinate establishment and other charges.	1,10,538	5	9	954	***	***	***	749	***
	Total	1,52,187	2	8	88	63	43	28	41	11
	GRAND TOTAL	2,49,799	9	7	145	105	70	46	67	18

I have in this table given the cost per village, mahal, 1,000 holdings, and 1,000 fields, because neither for assessment nor for record work, particularly not for record work, is the cost per square mile a fair test. The assessing officer's labour varies partly with the area he has to inspect and soil-classify, but in a much greater degree with the number of mahals, each of which he has to consider and assess separately. The record officer's work does not depend on area at all, but to a slight extent upon the number of mahals, to a greater extent upon the number of holdings, including sub-tenants' holdings, but most of all on the number of fields. If it is

necessary to go upon one factor only, neglecting the others, the best test for the assessment work in my opinion is the cost per mahal, and the best test for the record work the cost per 1,000 fields.

Mention of officers.

73. In the cold weather of 1898-99 two officers, Mr. W. E. M. Campbell and Mr. J. C. Fergusson, were attached to the settlement for instruction. My report on the aptitude shown by these officers for settlement duty was submitted through the usual channel, and it is not necessary for me to say anything in this place further than that the report was entirely satisfactory in each case.

In the cold weather of 1899-1900 Mr. Muhammad Ahmad was attached as Assistant Settlement Officer for the purpose of inspecting and assessing the alluvial villages, under my responsibility. It was his first experience of assessment, but he learnt very quickly, and was of great assistance to me. His good work has been recognised by his appointment as Assistant Settlement Officer at Aligarh, and it is unnecessary for me to add any further commendation.

75. The two Deputy Collectors were Pandit Syama Bihari Misra and Maulvi Muhammad Fazl Rabb. I am much indebted to both these officers for the untiring and conscientious zeal which they applied to their task, the most tedious and laborious in the settlement. As soon as the bulk of attestation proper was over, Maulvi Fazl Rabb was transferred to the Pilibhit Settlement (Bisalpur). Pandit Syama Bihari Misra still remains and will remain in charge till the operations are closed. I cannot pass the name of this officer without some special mention. He has the advantage of a very good English education, a most excellent practical ability, and a power of work which is something very unusual. His control over the vernacular office—the greater portion of which was in his hands throughout—was satisfactory and efficient. I feel enabled to hand over the conclusion of the settlement to his charge with a confidence which I should be able to feel in the case of very few of the officers of similar rank whom I know.

Mention of subordinates.

- 76. The Head clerk up to August 1900, when he was transferred to be General Superintendent of the Deputy Commissioner's Office at Sitapur, was Babu Har Bishun Dyal. His services and his value have been too well described by Mr. Butler with reference to the late Sitapur Settlement for it to be necessary for me to say more than that my experience of him is the same as Mr. Butler's, and that my indebtedness to him is great. I trust that his exceptional worth and his valuable services will not be lost sight of.
- 77. Since Babu Har Bishun Dyal's departure, Babu Lakshman Prashad, 2nd Clerk, has been in charge. I have been well satisfied with him, and the result of this his first experience in charge of an office is to establish in my opinion that he is in every way fit to be a Head Clerk.
- 78. In conclusion I wish to mention Babu Rameshwar Prashad, Sudder Munsarim. The bulk of the statistics on which both the assessment and distribution were based were prepared under his control. The manner in which he got the work done has given me whigh opinion of him.

W. A. W. LAST,

Settlement Officers

## APPENDICES.

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	ø	_	area. Nulse with barren. Free wise Total Groves. Waste. Old. New. Lift. Wells. Sources. Total. Dry. Total. Dry. Total. Dry. Total. Dry. Total. Dry. Total. Dry. Total.	<u>.                                    </u>		ė.	0	0	
:	idene	OI	r scre	le a rea	22	Rs. 6. p	69	63	::
_	<u> </u>	_						<del>-</del>	
:	Incidence Incidence	of worden	per acre	tivation.	21	Rs. s. p.	6	111	1:
_					20	Acres.	9,92,945	9,92,429	516
	-	 		Total.	1.9	Acres,	7,46,977	6,84,699	62,278
		_		Dry.	18	Acres.	4,47,881	5,25,487	77,606
		_		Total.	17	Acres.	1,04,437 2,99,096	1,59,212	1,89,884
	Cultivated.		24.50	Bources.	16	Acres.		47,955	56,482
	Culti	Irrigated.		Wells.	15	Acres.	1,94,659	1,11,257	83,402
Assessable.		I	ale.	Lift.	14	Acres.	:	:	::
ABE			Cans	Flow.	13	Acres.	•	*	::
			Total.		12	Acres.	2,45,968	3,07,730	61,762
		OW.		New.	F	А стез.	22,950	69,557 77,069	54,119
	ltivation.	Fallow.		Pid	10	Acres.	1,03,957 22,950	69,557	34,400
	Out of cu			waste.	6	Acres.	89,606	1,30,483	40,877
			Groves.		8	Acres. Acres.	29,455	30,621	1,166
			Total.		4	Acres.	58,503 1,23,631 29,455	44,780 1,08,872 30,621	14,759
seable.			Other wise barren.		9	Acres.			13,723
Not assessable.		7	with	100	ra	Acres.	39,945	39,678	267
					평	Acres.	16,905	16,575	088
	-		Reve-	free.	60	Acres.	8,278	7,839	489
	<del></del>	Tr. to 1	area.		63	Acres.	Settle- 1,116,576	1,101,301	15,275
	<del></del>		Period.		1		Former Settle- ment,	Present Settle- 1,101,301 ment.	Increase

Nors.-Land prepared for sugarcane is included under "cultivated."

II.-COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

III. -RENT-BOLLS AND COLLECTIONS.

II.—COMPARATIVES OF JAMAS	II.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF JAMAS.							4.5.40										ĺ
			Rented	Ten	Tenant's land held in	eld in-			:	Sír.		Khudkasht	asht.		To	Total.	Shikmi.	mi.
Period.	Revenue.	Year	unculti-	Cash.	jh.	Ki	Kind.	Total	tions in-		Done		Pont	Siwai		Hont.		Rant
			area in-	Area.	Rent de- mand.	A rea.	Bent de-	4 and 6).	arrears	Area.	demand.	Area, d	_:		Area.	demand.	Area.	demand
<b>়</b>	m	17.1	67	89	4	10	9	7	00	6	10	=	12	13	14	15	188	17
		Former Settlement.	Acres. 16,937	Acres. 6,49,205	Rs. 17,85,336	Acres.	Rs. 12,015	Rs. 17,97,351	Bs.	Acres. 1,06,727	Rs. 1,98,593	Acres. 1,395	Ra. 2,937	Rs. 24,889	Acres. 7,57,327.	Rs. 20,18,270	Acres.	я :
Before 1840	Rs. 10,22,324			6,11,785	19,53,335	:::	10,359	19,63,694	16,72,974	87,543	1,60,630	80,447 81,750	76,709		7,29,775	22,89,004	92,002	8,69,868 8,90,504
1870	11,84,425	1293 F.	: :	6,36,125	19,92,087 20,46,168	::	0,832	20,00,584 20,55,500	17,49,478 17,80,658	85,235 85,235	1,60,818 1,59,195	33,776 33,180	82,340 82,340	29,552 28,178	7,55,435	28,35,218	98,825 98,825	4,28,202 4,58,202 4,58,160
1870 after reduc-	11,66,241	1296 F.	111	6,53,097	20,90,908	:::	14,951	21,05,859 21,58,561	18,79,409			32,821 31,164	80,421	38,120 45,138	7,68,556	23,76,712 24,27,746	1,18,431	4,93,330
1900	11,69,260	F 12 12	49,786 53,963 49,772		21,56,686 21,98,923 22,30,776		16,217	21,72,903 22,16,505 22,48,513	19,39,532 18,47,132 19,68,452	80,203 79,539	1,42,943	31,112 31,838 33,372	74,691 76,498 80,448		7,81,339	24,35,697 24,80,654 25,32,813	1,17,081	5,09,990 5,40,418 5,75,767
					22,60,771 21,79,548		11,893	22,72,664	19,41,680 16,62,934			34,542 34,286	83,841		7,93,960	25,72,317 24,57,318	1,33,703	5,94,113
		Total of 12 years.		2,64,701 78,39,107	2,52,56,922	:	1,50,049	2,54,06,971	2,19,86,241	9,86,325	9,86,325 17,99,6943,90,653		9,51,744	5,35,167 9,216,085	_	2,86,93,576 1,350,062 58,54,031	,350,062	8,54,031
		Average	1	52,940 6,53,259	21,04,744	:	12,504	21,17,248	18,32,187	82,194	1,49,974	32,554	79,312	44,597 7,68,007	1 1	23,91,131	1,12,505	4,87,836
		Year of verifi-	•	61,482 6,18,365	21,19,066	5,566	1,090	21,20,156	:	72,873	1,34,010	33,434	84,578	65,609/7,30,228	_	24,04,353	1,05,709 4,84,011	4,84,011

Norm.—(1) The collections in column 8 include collections of arrears as well as of the current demand, on account of tenants' cash-paying and grain-rented lands (columns 10, 15, 16, 17, of jamabandi).

(2) For year of verification exclude all land belonging to revenue-free holdings included in the mabil. As the figures for previous years will ordinarily be obtained from the manaza register, they will necessarily include revenue-free holdings.

(3) In the case of manals created by partition less than 12 years ago, the form is filled up from the date of partition. cation.

## IV -- AREA TABLE AND VERIFIED RENT-ROLL.

Last settlement,	1t,					Present	Present (year of verification).	ification).				-
			Number	- Per	Cash-paying.	aying.	Grain	Grain-rented.	Under-	Under-tenants.		
Rent.	apt.	Description.	of Khatas.	fas.	Area.	Rent.	Area.	Rent.	Алев.	Bent.	Remarks.	
64	87	ော	14	-	مد	9	7	80	6	10		h
Rs.					4	å	A 0=00	j		þ		1
1,93		Tis.		12,989	72,416	1,33,358	ACIEs.	- TAB	32,172	1,57,166		
c7	2,937	Khudkasht		10,677	33,410	84,537	ŗĊ		3,910	17,207		-
1,96	1,96,530	Total		23,666	1,05,826	2,17.895	9	:	36,082	1,74,373		-
4		Ex-proprietary tenants as such		2,610	12,327	30,193	:	:	5.138	24.777		
13,62		Occupancy tenants as such		1,32,511	2.89,684	10,07,944	736		41,353	1.88.651		_
4,30	4,30,180	Tenants-at-will at full rates	_	2,03,152	8,15,460	10,78,856	4,830	794	23,136	96,210		
17,97	17,97,202	Total		3,38,273	6,17,471	21,16,993	5,566	060'1	69,627	3,09,638		
-	+741	Rent-free for service, and favoured tenures.		7,523	‡ 5,761	25	:	:	1,754	6,393		
19,94	19,94,478	GREND TOTAL	1	1,462	3,69,462 +7,29,058	23,34,913	5,572	060'1	1,07,463	4,90,404		
	-		_	-	-			•	_			

Nork.-Exclude from this statement any lands which may belong to sevenue-free holdings.

\*Rented uncultivated 16,937.

+ Favoured tenure 110, with rent 149. Includes 49,931 rented uncultivated area.

‡ Ditto. ditto. 15 ditto 25.

# VI.—COMPARATIVE CROP STATEMENT AND CENSUS AND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

	Census and Agricultural sta- tistics.	(Old 487	(New 181	r about 15 ft.	le 2,09,127 Year of last 5,63,271	settlement. Year of veri-5,16,095 fcation.	Settlement. Year of veri-2,24,443	fication. inhabited 2,823	ident te- 1,24,297
	Census and	Mesonry wells,	•	Acres. Depth to water	Transfer of	1,17,852 cerrons 1,76,578 tural po- 1,64,371 pulation. ( f	~	~₩ "	sites. Number of resident te- nants.
	Dofasli.		19				7,41,345	1,48,269	64,072
	1	1.0081.	18	Acres. 3,90,036		4,51,186 4,65,769 3,85,056	1,85,633 20,97,034	4,19,407	23,003 4,23,866
	Garden crops,	and others.	17	Acres. 32,992		87,531 37,863 86,891		37,127	1
		arbar.	16	Acres. Acres. 49,094 23,933	_	7,243	41,733	8,347	74,641 11,660
	Sugar.		16			68,297 45,055	2,79,791	55,958	ı
Kbarif.	Kodon	mixed.	14	Acres. 8,349	13,016	17,505	68,938	13,788	24,867 16,437
	Urd, mung,	moth and kodon lobia. mixed.	13	Acres. 20,232		23,378 24,437 20,348	1,32,322	26,464	24,867
		e l'ac	12	Acres. 1,25,955	83,291	91,797 91,797 71,907	4,30,093	86,019	89,879
۱			=	Acres. 43,813	21,566	46,378 21,896	1,57,387	31,477	45,250
	3.0	900	10	Acres. 85,668	<del></del>	1,79,033 1,67,469	8,01,137	1,60,227	1,38,129
	E e e		6	Acres. 3,73,272	4,74,837	4,14,033 4,64,203 4,95,659	3,16,768 23,36,464	4,67,293	27,217 8,19,850
	Bijhra	others.	80	Acres 15,748	51,434 63,659	71,162 71,162 81,966	3,10,768	63,354	27,217
	ia;		2	Acres. 16,707	40,598 39,874	89,507 40,991	1,96,404	39,281	25,975
Rabi.	Gard- en orops,	poppy and to- bacco.	9	Acres: 9,193	,38,578 12,182 ,57,966 11,676	12,911 15,792	63,665	12,734	67,009 17,601
	Gram, Barley, ness and	masur.	2	Acres. Acres: 52,605 9,19	1,38,578 12,182	1,43,693 12,911 1,46,828 15,792	7,11,664 63,665	1,42,321	
	Barley,		4	Acres. 25,394	37,440	86,391 42,612	1,84,098	36,999	33,953
	Wheat.		es	Acres. 2,53,625	1,74,605	1,67,470	8,63,022	1,72,604	1,48,095
	Total cultivat- ed area		671	8 Reve. 5,399. Acres. Settle. *7,52,376	7,35,285		36,92,153	7,38,431	*6,89,644
	Year		-1	* Includes Revenue free, 5,399.	मं सं स	1301 F.	Total of 5 years 36,92,153	Average ditto	nue free, 4,945. Year of verifica. *6,89,644 1,48,095 tion.

( 4A ) VII.--STATEMENT OF ASSETS.

			Tenants' cas	rented area	Assum	ption areas in	acres with val	nation.	Total
	Soil.		Tenants-at- will.	Occupancy tenants.	Sír.	Khudkasht.	Grain rented.	Rent-free.	columns 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1			3	4	5	6	7	8
Dumat I	(Rental	Acres. Rs.	1,33,066 1,32,099	1,65,574 1,65,498	40,297 39,863 1,59,045	15,539 14,374 54,588	1,275 2,907 8,510	2,858 2,413 9,494	8,58,609 8,57,154
Dumat II	Accepted Rental ( Recorded	Acres.	97,778 95,313  49.808	79,279 79,057 36,821	17,807 17,056 45,547 8,907	10,826 9,129 23,647 4,472	2,863 9,144 18,152 686	1,626 1,238 8,841 671	2,10,179 2,10,932
Matiar	1	Acres.	46,928 30,709	36,561 20,764	8,478 22,947 4,447	3,517 9,312 2,399	2,536 5,993 815	493 1,391 565	1,01,365 98,508 59,699
Bhur	(Rental	Acres.	3,388	20,301 4,456 4,328	3,981 6,626 560 467	1,644 2,703 298 205	6,299 7,698 149 890	373 645 36 19	61,346  8,882
Dhankar	Accepted Rental	39	8,165	***	1,129	467	872	44	8,574
Recorded	Area Reut Incidence	Acres. Rs.	3,14,749 10,71,008 8 6 0	3,06,894 10,60,006 3 7 0	72,018 1,82,485	33,529 84,684	5,788 8,292	<b>5,7</b> 56 <b>29</b>	7,38,784 23,56,504
By circle rates.	Area Incidence	Acres. Rs.	3,06,253 9,66,734 3 3 0 8,06,253	8,05,745 10,83,762 8 9 0 3,05,745	69,840 2,50,470 8 9 0 69,840	28,869 98,145 8 0 28,869	21,276 43,594 2 1 0 21,276	4,531 15,744 3 8 0 4,531	736,514 24,58,449 3 0 7,36,514
Accepted	Rent	Rs,	9,73,334	10,81,867	<b>2,35,85</b> 9	90,717	41,220	14,855	24,37,852
	Incidence	39	3 3 0	3 9 0	3 6 0	8 2 0	1 15 0	3 4 0	24,88,456 8 5 0
	Sayar Assets		***	***	240 279	90d 64d		012 501 044 467	Rs. 12,665 24,51,121
Deductions	For sir For Improve Net assets	ments	***	\$50 \$44 848 648 848	000 000 007	114 64 <b>968</b>	***	997 <b>562</b> 564 <b>1</b> 87 644 <b>99</b> 2	34,196 2,680 24,14,245

\*Lump valuation added for sugarcane and opium.

VIII.—CASTE STATEMENT.

	Occupan	cy and ex-	proprietary	tenants.		Tenan	ts-at-will,				
Class.	No. of	Area.	Rent.	Rate	No. of khatas.	Area.	Rent.	Rate.	Class A.	Class B.	Olnes C.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs. a. p		Acres.	Rs.	Rs a. p.			
A	36,807	97,354	2,97,053	8 1 0	45,542	74,452	2,41,150	8 4 0	Brahmans	Kachis	All others
В :	52,717	1,17,456	4,33,994	3 11 0	71,997	1,13,354	3,93,652	3 8 0	Thakurs	Muraos	Musalmana
C	45,908	87,929	3,08,825	8 8 0	85,651	1,27,795	4,44,367	3 8 0	Kaisths	Malis	
									[	Kisans	}
Total B and C,	98,623	2,05,385	7,42,819	3 10 0	1,57,648	2,41,149	8,38,019	3 🖩 0		Kurmis	1
										Ahirs	
Total A B and C.	1,35,430	3,02,739	10,39,872	3 7 0	2,03,190	3,15,601	10,79,169	3 7 0			
		1	j	ì		ł		1			

IX.—Statement showing the number of cases and appeads instituted and disposed of in the Shahjehanpur Settlement up to 28th Februar, 1901.

Bes-	ġ	1-	hdmitted. Rejected.			_	:	:	:				:	:	-				_	:	: :	_			4.26	92
ıst as	omin r.		apposis were lodge	1					<u> </u>		'	<u></u>	·							<del></del> -	÷			<u> </u>	30	30
Appeal against asses-	ment to Commissioner.	1 c	rəd <i>mun lat</i> of id <b>vr n i sla</b> dam	8			:	<b>:</b> 	:				:		: :	-				:	: 	-	: -			
Appea	5	3 0	o vədmun lado] oivteib ni əlanlam	82	:	;		:	:	:		:	:	::		1	:	:			: :		: :	:	3,570	3,570
the	er to	_	Lotal.	. 2	-	4	<u>'</u>		16	•		13	- 30 	# □	:	:	11	:	70	'	: :	:	:	: 0	:	96
Appeals from the	settlement officer to Commissioner.		Pending.	-1	:		:	<u> </u>	<u></u>	:		-	_			:	ro	:			: :		:	:-	1 :	22
p bear la	Join m	_	Confirmed		:	or:						13	_	<b>-</b> ;									:	:-	٠:	62
¥	sett O		February 1901.		-				<b></b>				( <u>9</u>		;	: -	C)					:	:	•		13
cers cers	น้	- ff3	Remaining on 28	23	:		:		:	:				: :	-:	:	_ <u>:</u>	- :			-	:	: 	: :		4
t Offi	inate	ed.	Remanded. Total.	21 22	:	:			:	:	:	2 76	C-1	: :		:		:			! ! 	;	-	: :		14 280
men	bord	Decided.	Reversed.	102	-	·			i	:	:	64 c		: :		:	İ	i			1	:	_			188
ettle	ir sa	a	Comfirmed.	19	:	:	:		:	:	:		=_	: :		ŧ	:	:	:		: :	:	:	: :	:	183
Appeals to Settlement Officers	from their subordinates.	_	.latoT	81	:	-:	:		:	:	•	77	_	: :		:		:			: i		:	: :		284
ppewl	fro		Instituted.	17	:			_	:	:	•	7.7	.0	-		:						:	:	: :		234
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(a) Columns 24—27 and 29-31 include figures up to 25th February 1901.
 (b) Column 24 — includes also cases remanded for retrial.
 (c) ,, 30—Those appeals were admitted on Settlement Officer's recommendation,



## ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT.

No.  $\frac{2131}{1-325B}$  of 1901.

## RESOLUTION.

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Dated Naini Tal, the 12th July 1901.

## READ-

Letter No.  $\frac{1795 \, \text{N}}{1-22 \, \text{A}}$ , dated 25th June 1901, from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, submitting the Final Settlement Report of the Sháhjahánpur district, by Mr. W. A. W. Last, I.C.S., together with a review thereon by the Commissioner, Robilkhand Division.

OBSERVATIONS.—Settlement operations in the Sháhjahánpur district commenced in October 1896, when Mr. W. A. W. Last was appointed Settlement Officer. The last assessment was sanctioned and declared in November 1900. The Settlement Officer's report is dated 25th April 1901, and after review by the Commissioner and the Board reached this Government on 26th June 1901.

- 2. The district lies to the south-east of Rohilkhand and may be described as fairly fertile. Except in its northern tabsil, it is healthy. Irrigation affords adequate protection to the crops in ordinary years, the water lying near the surface, and wells being easily sunk. The communications of the district are good: and during the past thirty years three lines of railway have been opened. These have given a great impetus to sugar refining, the staple trade of the district. The returns of the recent census show a population of 535 to the square mile.
- 3. Petty proprietors own the greater part of the district. There is but one large landlord, the Rája of Pawáyan. Forty-four per cent. of the entire area is held by co-parcenary bodies, and 34 per cent. in joint zamíndári tenure. As a rule, the landlords are poor, and many are indebted.
- 4. It cannot be said that the district has been fortunate in its revenue administration. The earliest settlements were undoubtedly Some relief was given by the first regular settlement severe. made in 1840, which, though not lenient, was equitable. During its currency the district made satisfactory progress. But the settlement of 1870, which expired in 1900, was undoubtedly a severe one. It took into account prospective extensions of cultivation and rental enhancements and "largely discounted, if it did not help to check, Board of Revenue's letter future improvement." The district, weighted by No.  $\frac{1202N}{1-579}$ , dated 17th severe assessment, had to face the famine of 1877, July 1895. which struck a serious blow at its prosperity. revenue, which from the outset had been collected with considerable difficulty, fell into arrears: and, despite m free use of coercive processes, large remissions had to be given. The famine of 1896-97 further retarded the return of prosperity, and again large remissions of revenue were necessary.

- 5. It is obvious that the new settlement could not be expected to yield any appreciable enhancement of revenue, and a summary revision of assessments based on the village records was at first proposed with a view to the redistribution of revenue. Later, however, in 1897 it was determined that a complete reattestation of the records should be undertaken. Events have justified this decision: for the existing records were found seriously inaccurate. Moreover, the survey of the district having been decided upon, a revision of the records was practically inevitable. But the work of settlement was hampered by the delay in the attestation work, much of which had to be done over again, and the Settlement Officer was deprived of the assistance which the attested records should have given him in the actual work of assessment.
- 6. The Settlement Officer's report gives statistics which indicate the effects on the district of the two famines, and of the severe assessment of 1870. The population fell from 951,006 in 1872 to 920,302 in 1901, a diminution of over 30,000 in the thirty years, or of 503 to 481 per square mile of the rural population. The cultivated area had fallen from 67.38 to 65.81 of the total area. The collection of revenue was attended with great difficulty. Much of the land had changed hands during the period of the previous settlement, and in the north of the district signs of deterioration were visible. The large decrease in land held with right of occupancy attested the general decline of prosperity.
- 7. The work of assessment under the conditions described above required peculiar care and discrimination. It was necessary that the area assessed should be moderate; that its valuation should be lenient; and that the distribution of the revenue should be carefully effected. The latter point was of extreme importance in view of the prevalence of coparcenary bodies.
- Taking first the question of the area, it will be seen that the Settlement Officer has accepted 736,514 acres for valuation purposes. This is rather lower than the average of the cultivated area for the five years preceding the recent famine (738,431 acres). But it is in excess of the returns of the year of verification, in which the recorded area is shown as only 689,644 acres. The cultivated area was then suffering from shrinkage due to famine, and could not be accepted as a basis for assessment. As the latest returns show that the process of recovery is in active operation, cultivation having already extended to 724,767 acres, it does not appear to the Lieutenant-Governor that the accepted area is unduly high. It will be noted, too, that the additional area which has been included to bring the cultivated area nearer the normal is assessed at very easy rates. The Settlement Officer has classed no less than 15,488 acres of the additional land as grain-rented, assuming a grain-rented area of 21,276 acres (not 41,220 acres as stated in the Board's report) against an actual area of 5,788 acres, and has assessed it at extremely moderate rates. Moreover, a further safeguard is found in the fact that the assessment has been made progressive, so that if the recovery is not completed in five years, effective allowance may be made for the shortage.

The question of the rates accepted by the Settlement Officer for valuation purposes has been exhaustively dealt with in the Board's review, and may be briefly examined. Roughly speaking, four-fifths of the assessed area is held by tenants, the remaining one-fifth being assump-According to the valuation statement, about half the cashrented area is shown as held by tenants with right of occupancy, but the subsequent attestation showed that more than two-thirds of the area was so protected, though this proportion was exceptionally high in the year of verification, owing to the abandonment of inferior non-occupancy holdings during the famine. There has been, beyond question, a marked decrease in the right of occupancy area since the 1870 settlement. For this area the Settlement Officer has accepted an incidence of Rs. 3.54 an acre, the recorded incidence being Rs. 3.45: while for the non-occupancy area Rs. 3:18 an acre has been accepted, as compared with a recorded incidence of Rs. 3.40. The Settlement Officer has, in fact, rejected much of the non-occupancy rents as excessive, while he has found the right of occupancy rental inadequate. His valuation of the right of occupancy rental assumes that it will be collected in full, with an addition of nearly Rs. 22,000. In justification of this belief the fact is set forth that the best land in the district is in the cultivation of the occupancy tenants: and it is maintained that, though the rental paid by these tenants is apparently higher, it is really 8 per cent. lower than the non-occupancy rental. The Lieutenant-Governor does not question the statement that, taken as a whole, the occupancy lands are the best in the district, and he considers that, having regard to the course of prices during the last twenty years, some of them admitted of enhancement. But he does not conceal his feeling that a weak point of this settlement may be found in the enhancement He would have been better pleased had the of occupancy rents. enhancement been somewhat less. Still he must admit that the maháls were all considered in detail both by the Board and by the Government, and he believes that, although when viewed in the gross, the enhancements seem substantial, they appeared after scrutiny and adjustment to be moderate when regarded in detail.

The non-occupancy rents have been treated with extreme moderation: and it is doubtful whether there has not been an undue rejection of rentals deemed excessive.

Taking the cash rentals as a whole, the Settlement Officer has accepted Rs. 20,55,201 as an estimate, a sum of about Rs. 75,000 below the actuals, and yielding an incidence of Rs. 3.36 an acre. Viewed in the aggregate, this cannot be deemed an excessive valuation. The assumption areas have been valued at an average rate of Rs. 3.07, the grain-rented area being rightly valued with extreme moderation.

10. The assets finally obtained by the Settlement Officer, after adding Rs. 12,665 for sival, and making a deduction of Rs. 34,196 for proprietary cultivation and Rs. 2,680 for improvements, are Rs. 24,14,245. On this the revenue proposed is Rs. 11,69,260, exclusive of the nominal revenue of Rs. 4,624 assessed on revenue-free estates.

Considerable reductions have been made by the Commissioner, the Board and by Government on the assessments as originally proposed by the Settlement Officer; and the percentage of assets taken is 48.62 per cent. The revenue incidence on the actual cultivated area is 1.62 per acre—an incidence which will be lowered as cultivation expands, and which at present does not represent more than about 8 per cent. of the value of the produce in staple food-grain only.

- 11. The final gain to Government from the revision is inappreciable. When the progressive assessments come to an end, it will be only about Rs. 2,000 per annum. For the first five years of the new assessments there will be a loss of Rs. 15,000 a year: from the sixth to the tenth year the loss will be Rs. 1,500 a year: after this a gain of Rs. 2,000 a year will accrue. The final assessments show a slight increase in all the tahsils except Pawayan, where a decrease of no less than Rs. 38,093 has been given. The expenses of the settlement have been heavy. The survey cost Rs. 1,67,047: the record of rights Rs. 1,21,425: the assessment proper Rs. 97,612. A further expenditure of Rs. 50,000 will be necessary to complete the records, bringing the total cost to Rs. 4,36,084, or Rs. 253 the square mile.
- The report which has been submitted is an imperfect record of the work of the settlement. As the Board point out, there are numerous discrepancies between the figures in the appendices and in the body of the report, and, though the variations are capable of explanation, the Settlement Officer's account of his procedure is lacking in explicitness and detail. The report does not do justice to the actual work performed, which has been found careful and thorough, though exposed to close and searching review. The important duty of distribution of revenue was kept by the Settlement Officer in his own hands, and the very small number of appeals appear to indicate that this difficult work was carried out with discrimination. The assessments have been in force for a year and have been found to work smoothly. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the assessments now made, both by the more equitable distribution of the burden and by the reduction allowed for the next few years, will give the district relief. favourable seasons, a return to agrarian prosperity may, His Honour thinks, be confidently predicted. He accepts the Board's proposal to sanction the assessments for thirty years, except in the case of the alluvial maháls and those maháls for which special short-term settle-. ments have been proposed.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, for the information of the Board.

R. G. HARDY,

